Comic artwork by
Yumiko Igarashi
Story by
Kaoru Ochiai

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Josephine the French Rose

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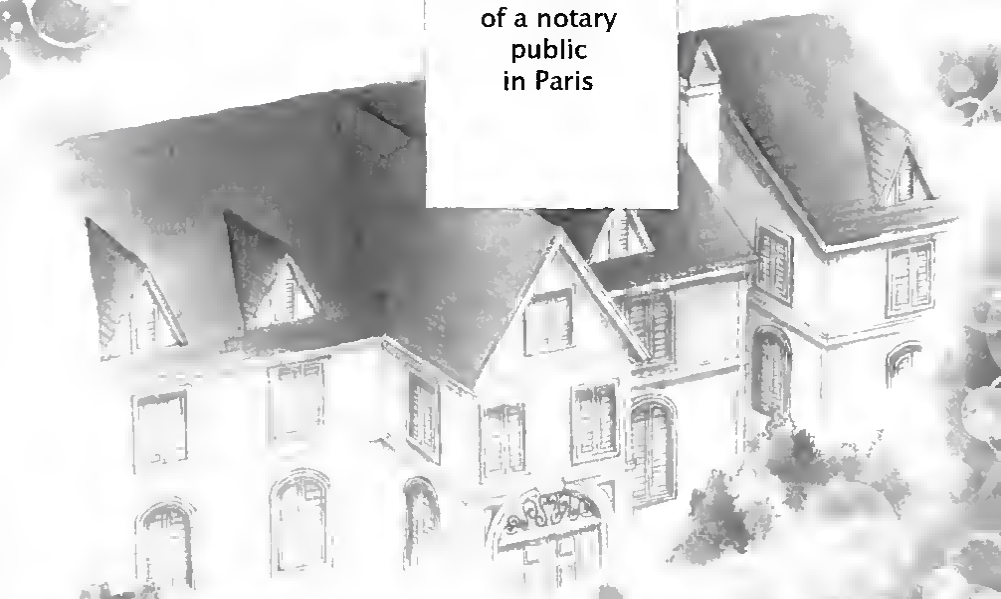
Manga art by Yumiko Igarashi
Story by Kaoru Ochiai

On March 9, 1796, Josephine married Napoleon in a humble ceremony held at the office of a notary public in Paris



Part IV

Standing by were the mayor, a young official, Barras, and myself
Clad in a simple dress, Mademoi-selle awaited the arriva her groom
Made-moiselle had been sixteen at the time
Thoughts of her wedding to Master Alexandre came to mind

Paris had polished Mademoiselle and made her even more beautiful
Full of faith in Eliama's words in Martinique where the sun shone brightly, she had dreamed about a future filled with hope
A long time had since passed
Together with her witnesses, she now awaits her husband-to-be
Eliama had said it was just one person who would truly love her, and it was up to her to find him

I have things to do. I'm leaving!
We've been waiting for more than two hours
Your excellen-cy...
He's late!
What's the groom doing?
Compiling a document without a witness is
with the mayor gone
I... I have no authority as a witness
I'm tired of waiting
Right, maybe we should all leave
Mayor...
slam

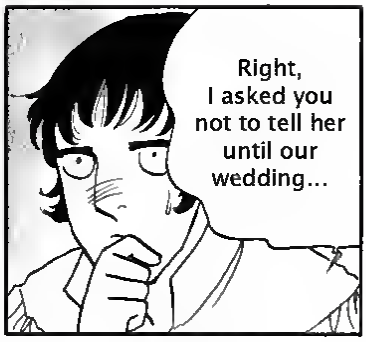
slam
huff
puff
pant
pant
I made it!
Hey!
We don't have a witness
...
The mayor's left
No you didn't
thump
thump
thump
She's my wife!
Whatever! Let us get married! I want to marry you!

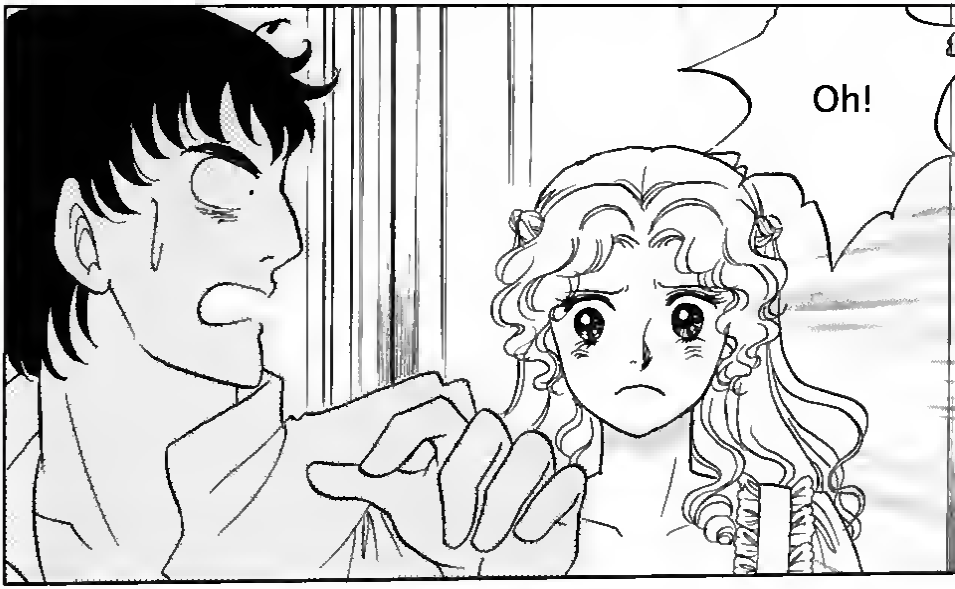
The ceremony was over in the blink of an eye
The couple signed their document and the young official served as their witness
And Mademoiselle wrote down her sister's date of birth, four years younger than her real age
And Napoleon wrote his older brother's date of birth as his own
I'm not an old woman
I'm not a young kid
It's meaningless!
Josephine my goddess, my wife
You're particularly beautiful today
Marrying you is the greatest honor of my life!
ぎゅっ
hug

But Mr. Barras came on time and he's a higher-up
You're pretty when you're mad
I got into a heated discussion with the higher-ups of the government
Why were you so late?
I'm angry at you, you know
It's the least he could do as he's separating us newlyweds
Barras appointed me to Italy
Wait, I'll go get him
Hasn't Agathon said anything about it?
rattle
Uh
oh,
um...
Separating us?
What are you talking about?

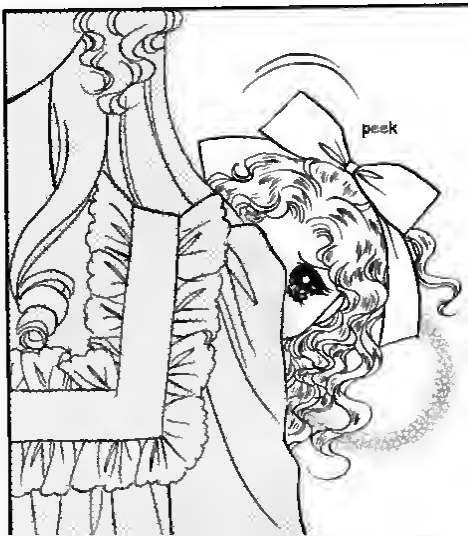
Oh
You're taking too much, Master Eugene
That's all you're packing?
She'll be happy that I'm going with the two of you
I'm the son of a military man
Will your mother really allow you to go?
Things aren't looking too good
click
Agathon, help me
No, you told me not to
You haven't told Josephine, have you?

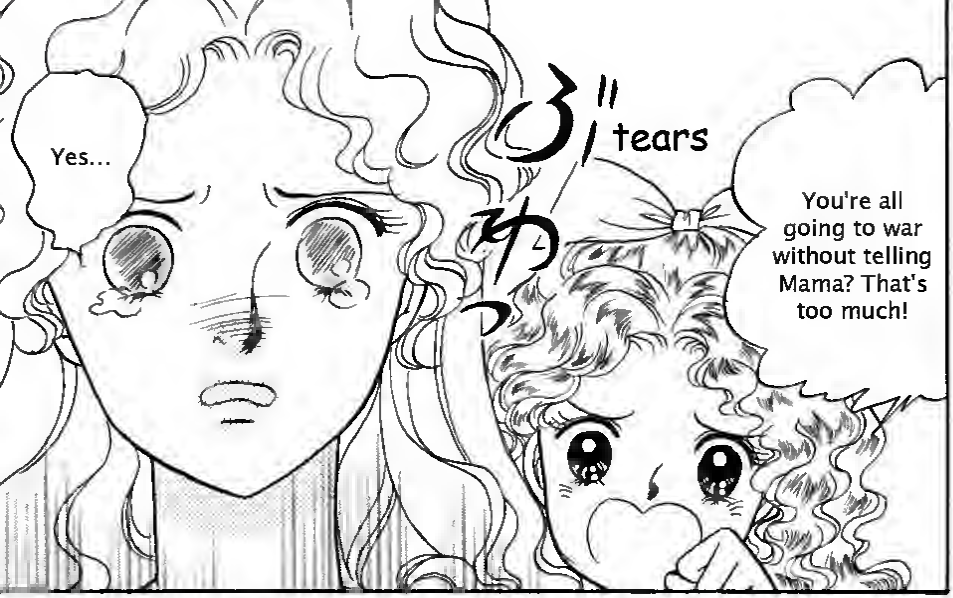
Got any sugges-tions?
look behind you
How should I tell her?

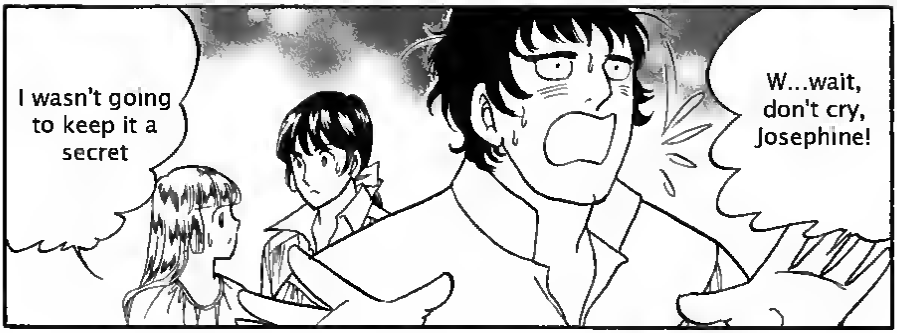

Right, I asked you not to tell her until our wedding...


Oh!

Hortense! You finked!


peek


Yes...
tears
You're all going to war without telling Mama? That's too much!


I wasn't going to keep it a secret
W...wait, don't cry, Josephine!

How could you do something like this? We're newlyweds! And you're all leaving me?
We just got married today!
sob sob

and, uh...
I didn't want to make you cry

Wait for the next opportunity
You're still young
Huh?
hug
We'll leave Eugene behind then, okay?
I will!
squeeze
And Agathon?
Who'll protect Agathon?
sob sob
He'll strategize and protect my life
I need Agathon. He's my adviser
back to you no matter what
I'll bring your husband

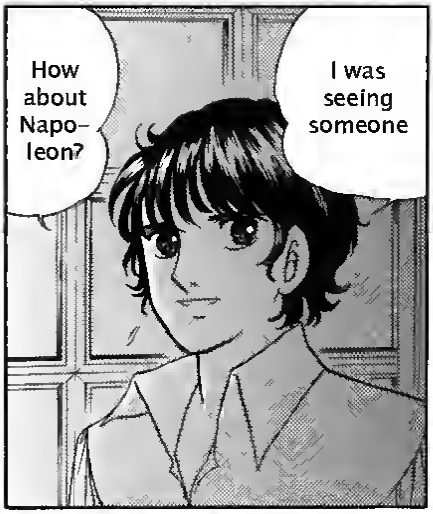
Please don't cry, I'm military and this is an order from the government
あ あ waa waah
You promised you'd always be with me
I promise I'll be thinking about you every day
My heart will always be with you
Jose-phine
あ waah
You're her husband
Stay with Mademoiselle until she cries herself to sleep
clear
Agathon, help!
あ あ waah
I can't bear to see her tears
waah
あ waah

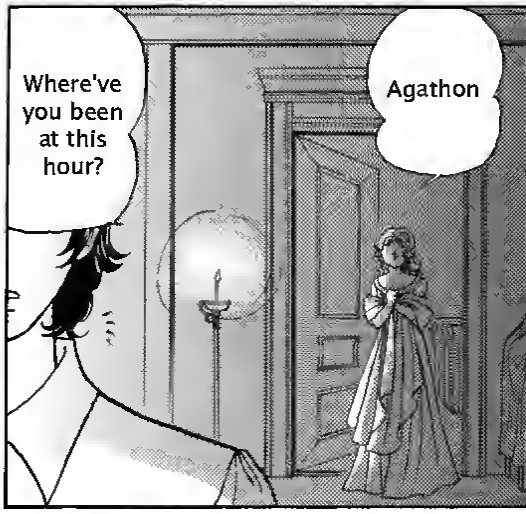
The next day, Napoleon left early in the morning for a meeting with the government
Good morning
I'm leaving now
I felt a little sorry for how tired he looked
Oh well... he's her husband
pour
We're leaving tomorrow, and there's a lot to do today
And as to the boxes in my room...
I have to be on my way, too
Customs can be scary
and realized I'd poured tea for Mademoiselle, who was still asleep
oh

Oh, that guy from Corsica?
Do you know of General Vandimiaire?
Ha ha ha, that young guy who married the belle of society?
How did he do it?
He's welcome if he's the husband of Mme. Beauharnais
Finally proved he's a French-man
Just like I thought
the public thinks less of Napoleon... something has to be done

Mademoi-
selle must
have
retired–the
whole house
is quiet
Com-
bat-
the war
zones are
probably
nothing
like the
French
revolution

Being Corsican, Napoleon had to win the battle
His marriage to Mademoiselle gained him recognition as a Frenchman
Now to win the hearts of the public
I'll use the battle in Italy to make him a hero
For that I'll take all the bullets that come his way


How about Napo-leon?
I was seeing someone


Where've you been at this hour?
Agathon

He's actually quite delicate
That's because you're nearby

Why did you pack your things and have the maid dispose of them this morning?
Why did you cut your hair?

Just like a military man, he can always eat and sleep well
He's fast asleep

Long hair will get in the way for a soldier so I went to the army barber
My clothes and my shoes are old so I want to get new ones on my return
As if you're going to die tomorrow... why?
You aren't a soldier!
Don't go! You'll always be my little Agathon!
You can't become a soldier!
Made-moi-selle?

My heart...
I don't want to lose you!

Agathon...

I'm an advisor
I won't die
Please don't cry
slip
I won't even hear the sounds of cannons
who'll be in the tent the farthest back
Will you really be okay?
sob
Please send me off with a smile
It's bad luck if you keep crying

You had curly hair when you were a little boy
It's wild now that you had it cut
squeeze
Agathon ...
Just let me stay like this a bit longer
I promise I won't cry
If I had one wish, I'd wish to die as your brother
Mademoiselle...

On March 11, 1796, Napoleon Bonaparte left for the southern city of Nice as Commander in Chief of France's Army of Italy
I couldn't help joking that maybe she was happy to get rid of me
In fact she was smiling at our send-off
No, sir
Hey Agathon? Josephine didn't cry
She was great!
That's a terrible joke, sir. She was earnestly controlling herself because tears are bad luck

Huh?
They'll be working under me
I'd like you to meet two people when we get to Nice, sir
Yes, that's my god-dess
Ah, ear-nest and great
You're such a good guy!
I love you!
rattle rattle
Why are you talking like that, calling me sir?
Fine, I won't meddle in what you do
Please go ahead and give me orders
I work for you, sir. We shouldn't talk like we're buddies
On March 29, Napoleon met the troop of forty-five thousand men in Nice that he succeeded from the commander before him

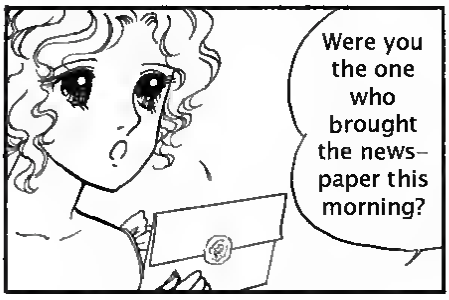
His mission was to chase away the Australian forces from Lombardia and Piemonte, Italy
This is my unit? They have nothing to eat, no decent issues of clothes or even shoes

We got here yesterday and have been waiting for you, Agathon
It's so terrible there's no story to write
Allow me to introduce you to my men, Commander

You aren't military... why are you here?
I'm Roi Blanc, a painter
Former newspaper reporter Daniel Radili
Let us first thank the men with food and wine
You'll see
What are you shouting about so early in the morning?
Mama! Mama!
Look!

The newspaper?
Look!
There's a big story about Papa Napoleon in the paper
Commander Napoleon advances into Italy
Speech receives thunderous applause fromsoldiers
"All of you have the courage and patience to have it all."
Here's what he said in his speech
"Although you soldiers may be practically naked at present, you will soon control a rich province and a large city and discover honor, glory, and wealth."

A light cavalry man's here with a letter from Papa Napoleon
He gave the speech on March 31
It's only been ten days, it's too soon to get in the paper


Were you the one who brought the news-paper this morning?

The Commander wishes to share courage and honor with the people of Paris
Yes, Madame. We'll be delivering articles and illustrations to newspapers almost every day.

I've been told to return with your response, Madame

That husband of mine with the insensitive jokes would never think of such a thing
Stories from the battlefield in real time... it has to be Agathon's idea
Are you glad you're getting rid of me?
What a beautiful smile
Bye Bonapar-te...
It's painful just to remember
Madame? Your reply?
I made such an effort to hold back the tears!
grr
grr
Ha ha, I'm just joking
No flirting my dear.
tensing up

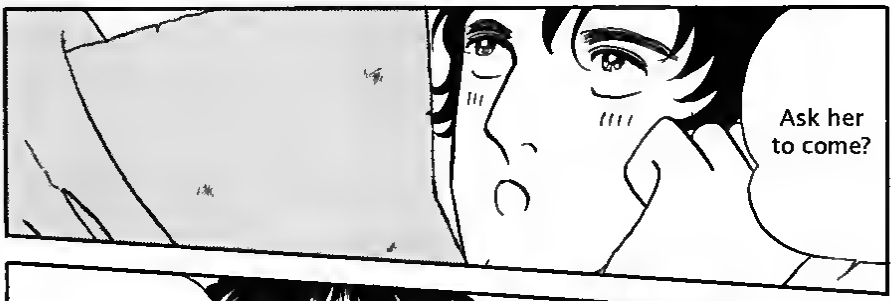
I'd like to kiss you, Josephine...if only you had wings–then we could be together right now. Your happiness is my happiness, and you are my life!
A kiss to your heart
and down below
and another kiss way down...
Ah, all right
Read it, Mama
rustle
Oh, my! I read that out loud!
Where's down below?

Please tell the Commander that I'll take my time writing him
Uh, Madame, may I have your response?
What an idiot, having a soldier in battle deliver a letter like this!
The... back!
Maybe the feet
Young commander makes declaration to his men
You have achieved six victories in but two weeks, but you still have more left to accomplish
Napoleon signs cease fire treaty with Italy
Commander Napoleon divides Austria-Italy alliance in second week in battle
Mademoiselle received a letter each time that an article was published.
And as to her response-

I want to hold her
I want to see Josephine

You can ask Mademoiselle to come when you conquer Italy
Think about what we're now facing

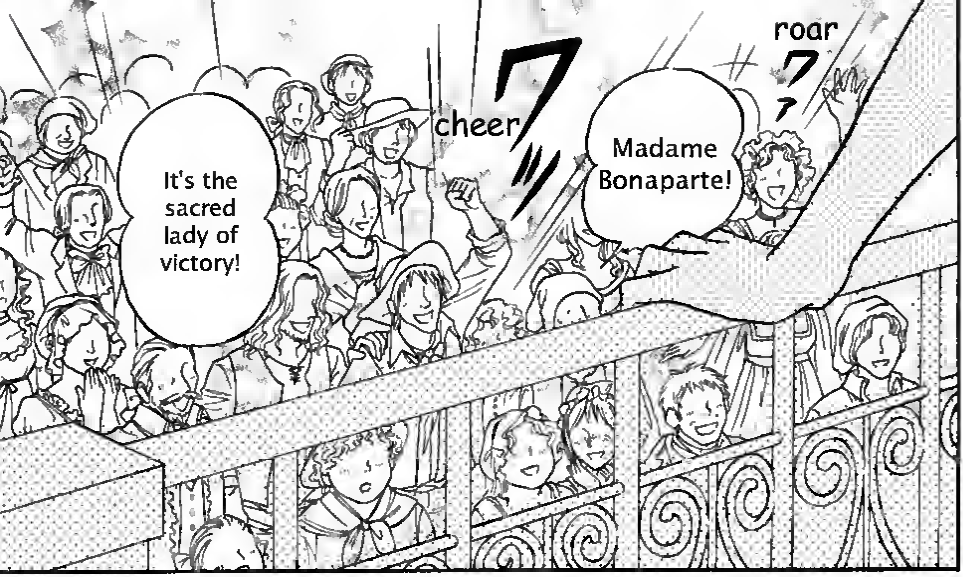
...That's what you're hung up about despite your steady advances?
Agathon... Josephine isn't responding

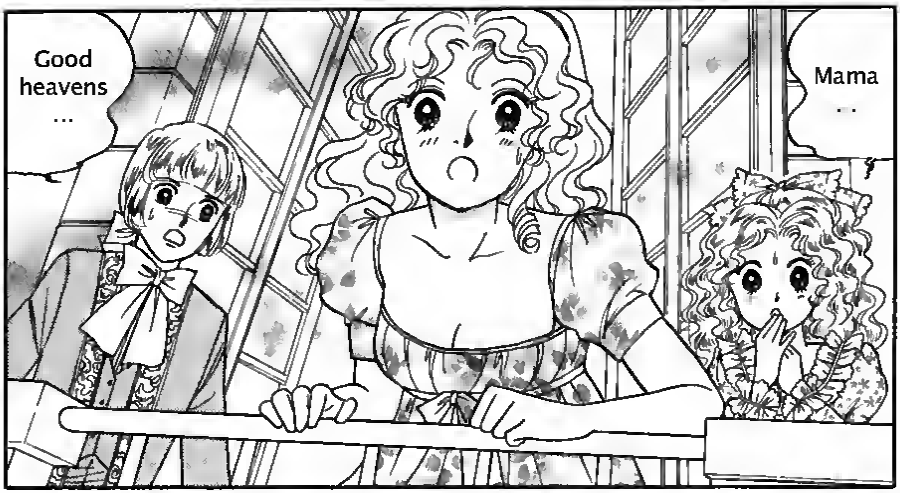

Ask her to come?

Then Mademoiselle can come to beautiful Milan
Let us conquer our major opponent Lombardia controlled by Austria
The victories are boosting the soldiers' morale

Milan–holding Josephine in my arms at a majestic castle in Monte Perlo...
Okay, let's discuss our strategy. The enemy unit outnumbers us with fifty thousand soldiers
Just how effective our strategy to concentrate our forces, break into the middle, split up the enemy and attack them individually will be–
These are gifts from the Commander, Madame
Please, Mademoiselle, give this single-minded young commander a response
By you're a genius at battle
You're clumsy when it comes to dealing with Mademoiselle, Napoleon

The Commander is bringing enormous bounty to France
victory
They're items we obtained in the cease fire treaty
What's this?
gingerly
Sacred lady of victory?
There's a huge crowd outside, Madame
They want to take a glimpse of the sacred lady of victory
rustle
rustle
so defenseless
It's filled with gold coins!
slam

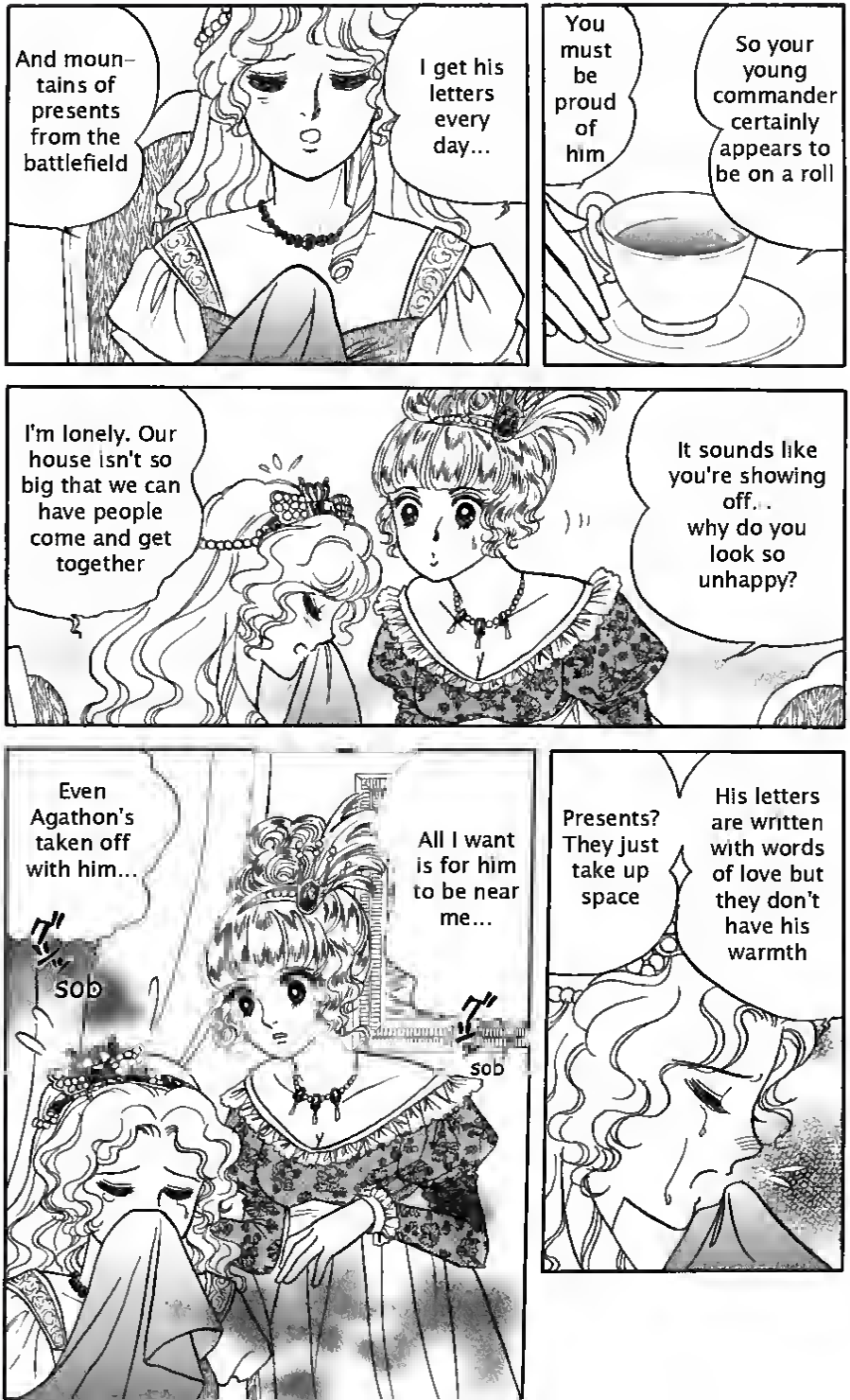

It's the sacred lady of victory!
cheer
Madame Bonaparte!
roar

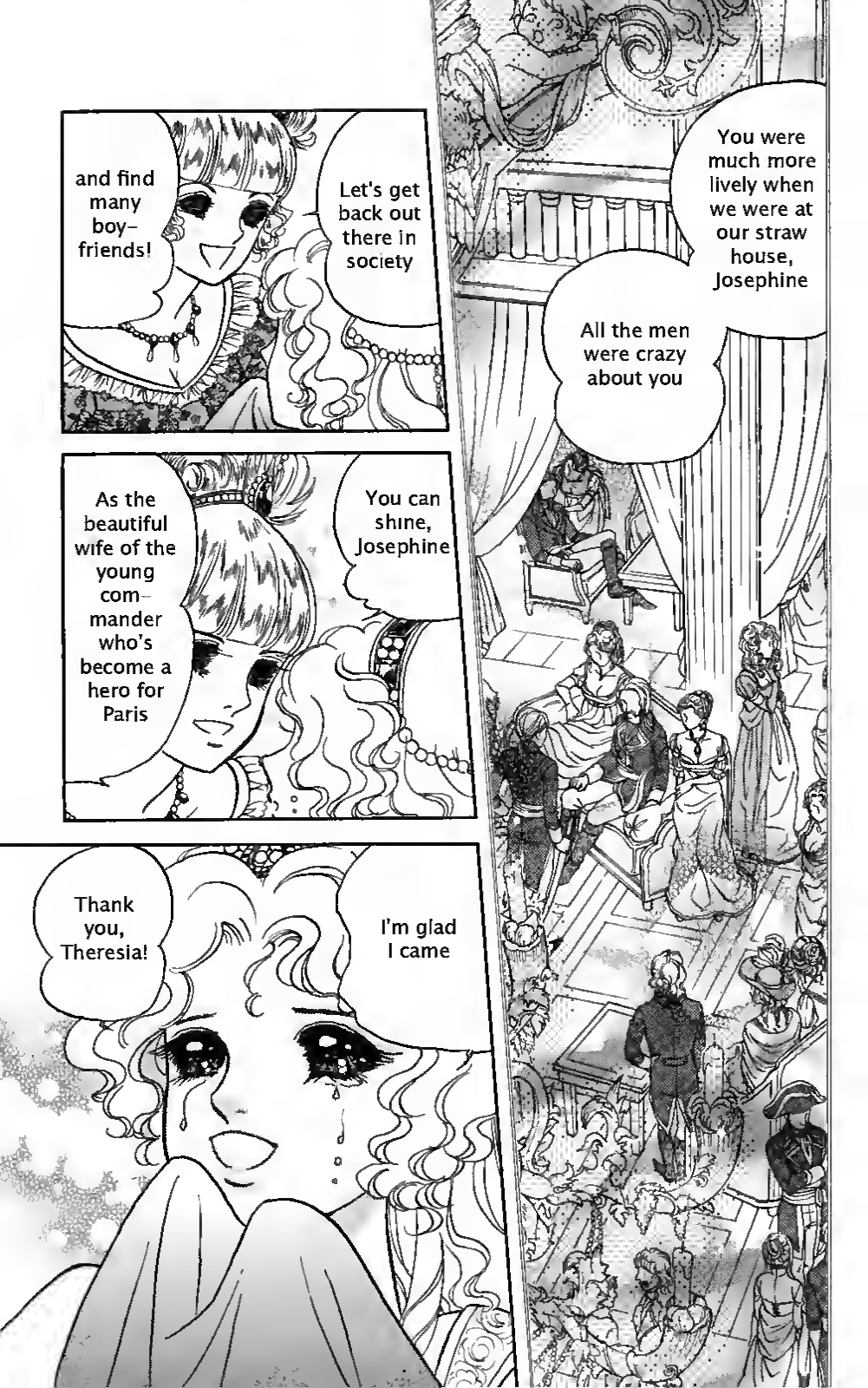

Good heavens ...
Mama ..

What kind magic spell have you cast on the people of Paris?
Bonaparte Agathon

Theresia, it's been a while
Rose!
Congratula-tions on your wedding
Was it Josephine now, Madame Bonaparte?

I'm sorry to suddenly barge in on you
You're perfectly welcome. I should have gone to congratulate you
Things have been hectic as you know...
That you jilted Talien and you're now with Barras?
ほほほ ho ho
You put it so bluntly– though that's the exact truth
You always look so happy and free, Theresia
blessed with charm and beauty
As to myself . .


And mountains of presents from the battlefield
I get his letters every day...
You must be proud of him
So your young commander certainly appears to be on a roll
I'm lonely. Our house isn't so big that we can have people come and get together
It sounds like you're showing off... why do you look so unhappy?
Even Agathon's taken off with him...
sob
All I want is for him to be near me...
sob
Presents? They just take up space
His letters are written with words of love but they don't have his warmth

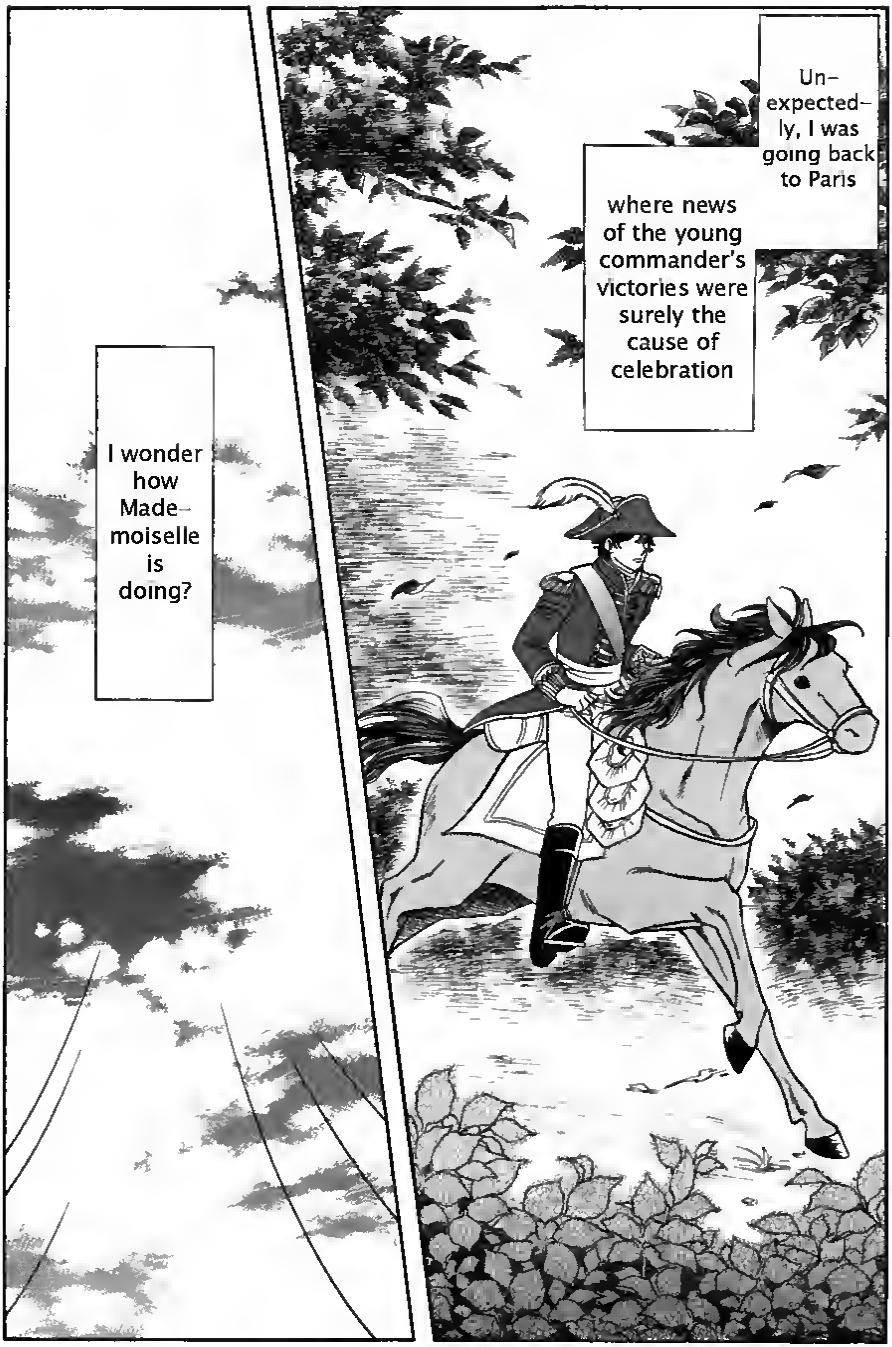

You were much more lively when we were at our straw house, Josephine
All the men were crazy about you
Let's get back out there in society
and find many boy-friends!
You can shine, Josephine
As the beautiful wife of the young com-mander who's become a hero for Paris
I'm glad I came
Thank you, Theresia!

What's that structure over there in the forest?
It's the name of the property
It's called Malmaison?
Structure? You mean Malmaison?
It would be lovely if it were surrounded by roses
I don't think there's an owner and there's no one living there, either

Mademoiselle longed for places where people got together
Malmaison—the vast but dilapidated property
Sat quietly waiting to mark its time in history
This won't do!
I want to see Josephine!

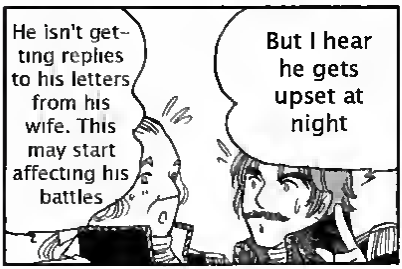
Not a word from her despite all the gifts I've sent her
Why isn't she replying to my letters?
Commander ...
argh
Please, let me slip back into Paris
Oh, Josephine!
A sketch won't work, either
I can't write an article about this
Please, Agathon
He sure is a handful

The battlefields are dangerous so I'll contact her as soon as we get someplace safe
Really?
hey
All right, I'll bring Mademoiselle here
...
If I can just see her once I'll conquer Austria, England, and even Russia
We want a raise
It'll cost you
Will you two keep writing and sketching pieces that will give Parisians a taste of honor and glory?

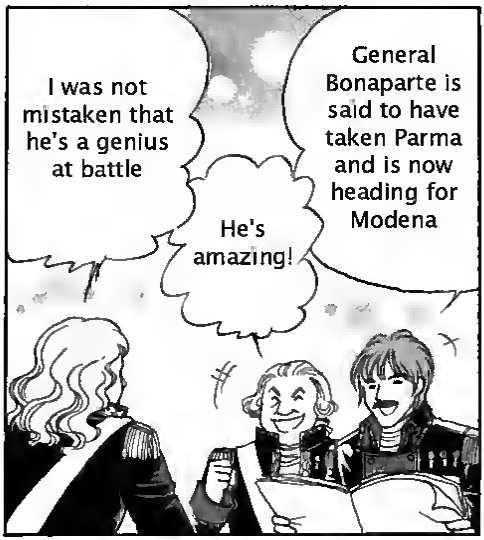

I wonder how Made-moiselle is doing?
Un-expected-ly, I was going back to Paris
where news of the young commander's victories were surely the cause of celebration

More than the joy of seeing her again,
a sense of concern was building in my mind

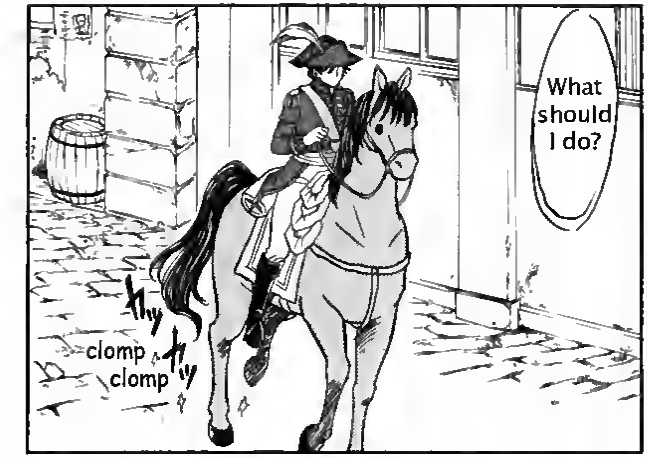
The day after Agathon left to return to Josephine
there were certain issues that top government officials in Paris were mulling over


He isn't getting replies to his letters from his wife. This may start affecting his battles
But I hear he gets upset at night

went away to war so soon
Hm... she's not happy that her newlywed husband


I was not mistaken that he's a genius at battle
General Bonaparte is said to have taken Parma and is now heading for Modena
He's amazing!

She's immensely popular these days
showing up with Theresia at salons everywhere
The nobles praise Josephine as a noble lady who made her husband a hero
and the public laud her as a sacred lady of victory
As the wife of a general she's become even more elegant, social, and beautiful
There are countless young nobles who make advances at her
It looks so fun
I don't suppose it would be possible to ask her to go to the battlefield to see Napoleon
Wait– I have an idea

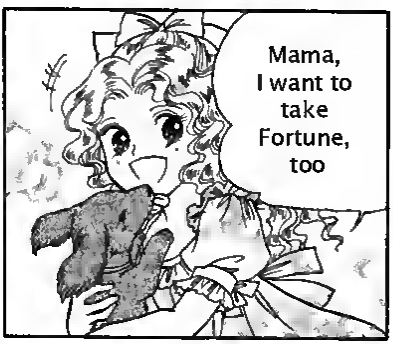

What should I do?
clomp clomp

Maybe I should just head back
I'm getting a heavy feeling the closer I get to Paris

Eugene
Hortense, do you have everything?

How can I talk her into it?
What if she says she doesn't want to go?

We'll take our time
Please give this letter to my husband
You'll get there before we do


Mama, I want to take Fortune, too

Never mind! We're going together
We're not going on vacation

Where are you heading off to?
What are you doing here?
Agathon ...
His Excellency suggested that we go and see Bonaparte while he renovates the new place
Mr. Barras arranged fo ær a more spacious residence for us on Avenue de Chantelaine
Our own house is a warehouse for all the presents from Bonaparte
Barras is a genius at handling women
That sounds lovely. I've come to get you
スマイル
smile

I'm so happy we're travelling with you, Agathon
It's the first time we're traveling together like this
Everyone in Paris is reading about General Bonaparte's amazing feats!
I can hardly wait to fight with him!
Such a pleasant trip–what was that sense of insecurity I had on my way back to Paris?

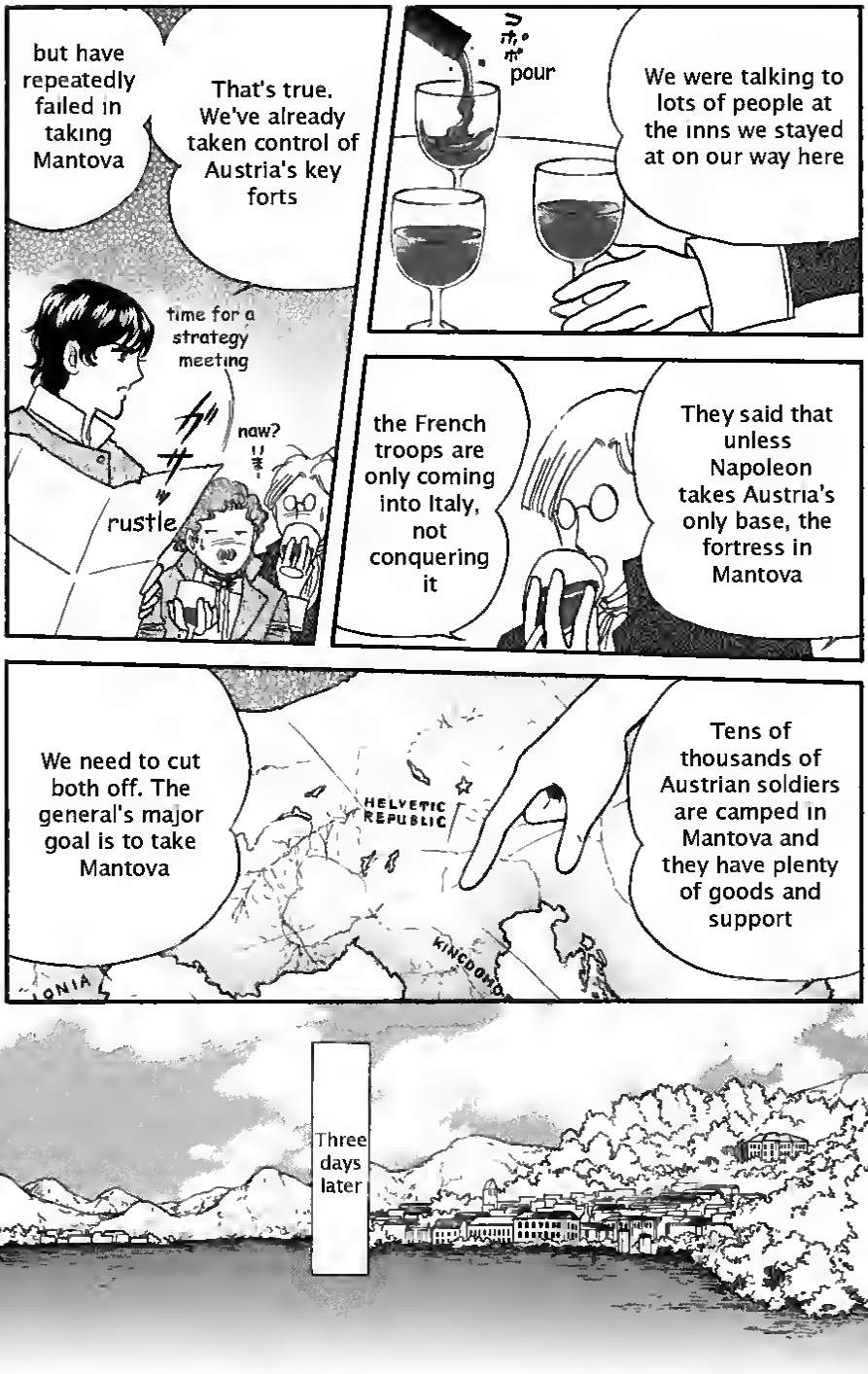
Am I high-strung because I've been on the battle-field?
ruff
ガサッ
rustle
sniff
Fortune, are you taking a walk on your own?

What were you thinking about?
Fortune can't ignore someone who looks like he's lonely
I'm just tired, overlapping her image with Mademoiselle
It's nothing
Long ago
there was another woman who said similar words to me
We were lonely with you and Bonaparte gone and got Fortune
She's devoted to Mlle. Hortense

Mama, two people came with a letter from Papa Napoleon
Did you see them?
Two? The light cavalry?
No, they were dressed normal
Officer Agathon
Oh, it's you two
We came with a letter for Madame from the general
And were told to accom-pany Madame
Thank you for traveling all this way
Please relax and make yourselves at home tonight

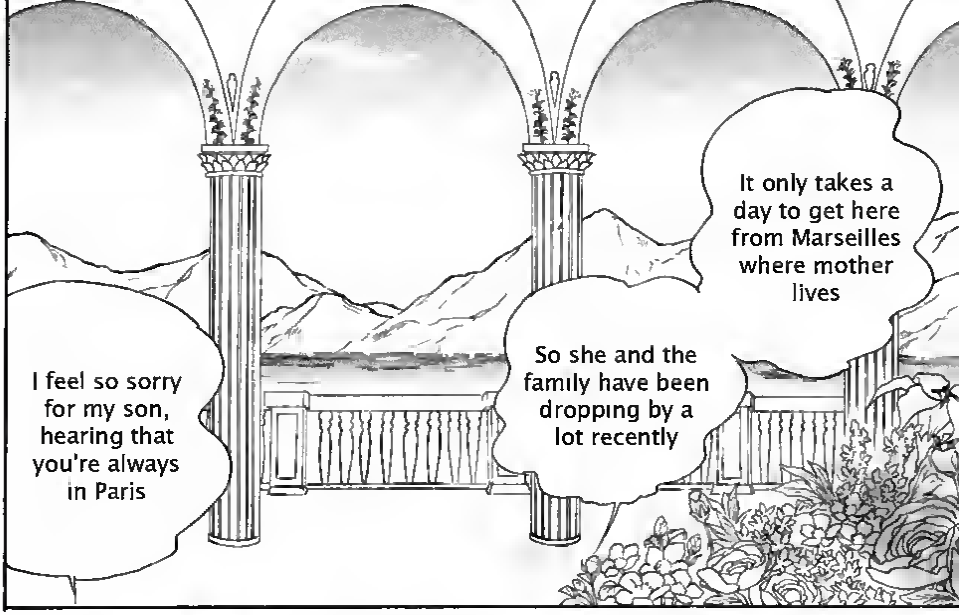
No way. I decided not to read his letters out loud
Read the letter, Mama
Make illustrations of your beauty
We'll provide coverage of you as you travel to see your husband, appeal to the newspapers
アピール?
appeal?
The sacred lady of victory herself!
She's a goddess indeed
Dearest Josephine, my heart is fluttering in excitement upon reading your letter that you're coming to see me
...It sounds just like him
He says he'll fill Serbelloni castle in Bellagio with flowers

I can't believe it
The general's taking time out at this crucial time to decorate his castle with flowers?
His love for his wife isn't normal
He was even jealous of the messenger
saying that the soldier would be seeing his Josephine
He said he'd kick him out if he touched her beautiful fingers when he gave her the letter
And more
That's enough! We'll reunite them ASAP and get back on the battlefield
Serbelloni castle in Bellagio– it's close to the Italian and Swiss borders and the people are friendly with the French
Hey look, wine
Let's help our-selves
Mademoiselle should be safe there

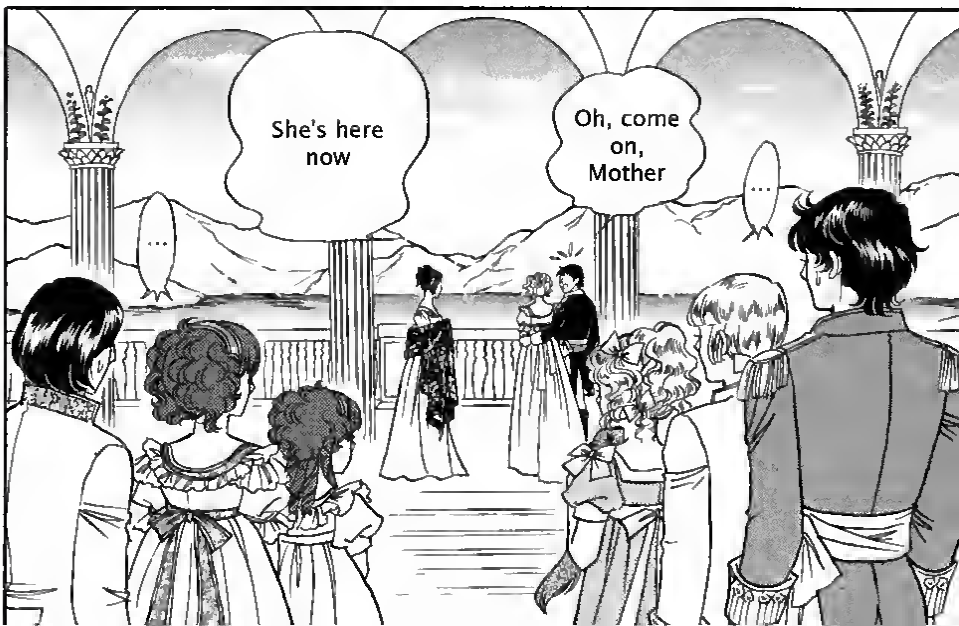

but have repeatedly failed in taking Mantova
That's true. We've already taken control of Austria's key forts
time for a strategy meeting
rustle
naw?
pour
We were talking to lots of people at the inns we stayed at on our way here
the French troops are only coming into Italy, not conquering it
They said that unless Napoleon takes Austria's only base, the fortress in Mantova
We need to cut both off. The general's major goal is to take Mantova
HELVETIC REPUBLIC
KINGDOM
Tens of thousands of Austrian soldiers are camped in Mantova and they have plenty of goods and support
Three days later

Once she got to Bellagio
Mademoiselle was met with a hero's welcome
roar
roar
Josephine!

Bonaparte ...what's this heated reception about?
roar
Everyone wants a glimpse of the sacred lady of victory
roar
This place was a colony of Austria
France liberated it and gave them freedom and equality
You defeated the Austrian troops and gave the people freedom and liberty
How wonderful...
That's enough intimacy in front of the public
roar
Mother Bona-parte?
ta-da


It only takes a day to get here from Marseilles where mother lives
So she and the family have been dropping by a lot recently
I feel so sorry for my son, hearing that you're always in Paris

It took you long enough to get here
...

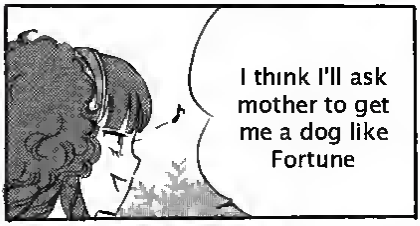

She's here now
Oh, come on, Mother
...
...

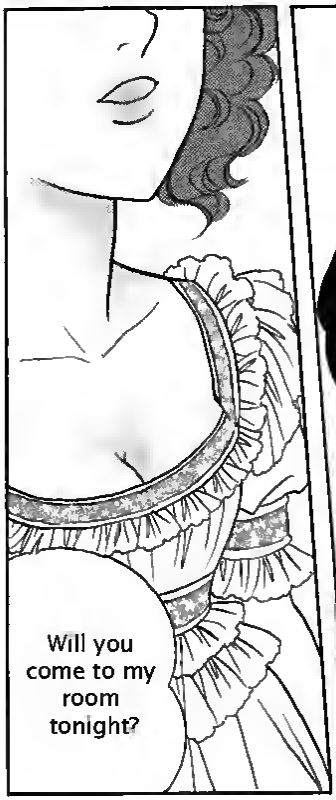
She's an angel
blush
Hor...Horte nse, I can show you around the castle
There's a pretty garden to walk your dog
All right, lead the way
tense
blush
Though far from a match, they would get married six years later
Hortense and Louis, the fifth son of the Bonaparte family

I'm going to ask the reporter and artist about the times they wrote their articles

Mlle. Pauline

Agathon? There's something I'd like to talk to you about


I think I'll ask mother to get me a dog like Fortune


Will you come to my room tonight?

I'm honored

You said you'd like to talk?

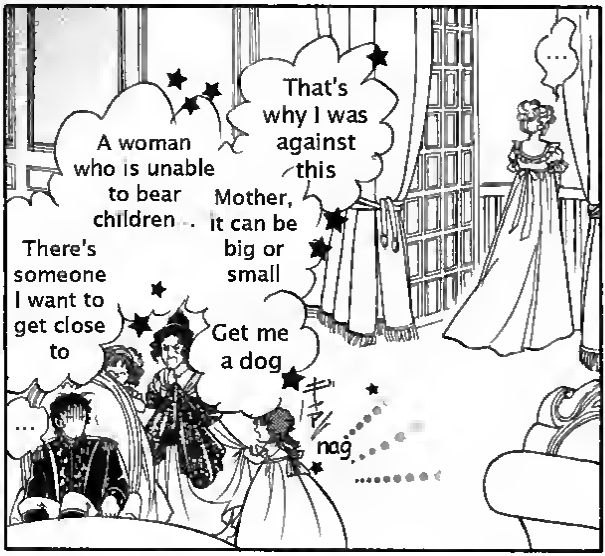
And today, you look even more ravishing
Ever since I first saw you I've been enchanted

You can't turn me down
I'm the general's sister
Where are you my brother?
Napo-leone!
I will!
What?
But I am
You can ask him yourself
I'm no match for the sister of the general
We need to get back to the front lines ASAP
Oh boy

but at least five or six ..
I'm not saying you should have eight babies
I want to see Napoleone's children
I'd given birth to eight children at your age
That's not what I'm saying
what a lovely breeze
I'm not a dog or a cat so I can't have five or six at once, mother
Can you have babies?
Napo-leone? Where are you, my brother?
Mother, I want a dog
Mother!
Hey!
rumble bumble
This is worse than the war zones
We aren't out in society now!
This is the way we laugh in society
What are you laughing about?
Oh, it sounded that way to me

You won't say no to whoever I love, right?
Ready for love
Brother! I'm sixteen
Everyone says I'm pretty
A dog
A dog
A dog
Get me a dog
Mother, I want a dog
Napoleone, your wife simply won't listen to me
If she can't have babies she should just say so

Quiet!


A woman who is unable to bear children
That's why I was against this
Mother, it can be big or small
There's someone I want to get close to
Get me a dog
...
...
nag

For just one day, please leave us alone!
I'm going back to battle tomorrow and I want to be alone with Josephine.
tug

being kicked out by my loyal son
I can't believe it
mumble mumble!
A dog-
You're kidding
My brother's given permis-sion
bump
Agathon, there you are
We must continue to fight and win
Tomorrow we go back to battle. As sorry as I am for Mademoiselle who finally got here,
?
I'll see you to-night

I finally arrived here after twenty days on the road
And you're going to battle tomorrow?
The joy of seeing you again, even for just one day, has given me strength
Your beauty is etched in my mind and now I can fight like a god of war
I love you
I'm madly in love with you
squeeze
Theresia mentioned before
that Napoleon's love for me is blind

click
ヒタ
ヒタ
tip
toe
Agathon
he's
waiting
for me
Whoa
jump
Aga–
thon

He's fast asleep
Where's Napo-leon?
Ssh
Mademoi-selle?
squeeze
Give me your hand
Mademoi-selle
I'm the only one who can undo it when you're home safely
Be safe... this handkerchief is for luck
Bonaparte said the battle that starts tomorrow is more difficult than anything you've faced before

Josephine?
That woman.. she took my brother from me and she's also intimate with Agathon?
Some sacred lady!
She came out of Agathon's room!
I won't forgive her!
Ever!

It's a gift from my goddess of victory
A scarf, General?
Let's go, Agathon
Our French army will score all the victories!
Yeah
It looks great on you
I hadn't known then that a letter from Pauline had been sitting in Napoleon's uniform
silently waiting to be read like a time bomb

General Napoleon achieves major victory in Castiglione - Austrian troops disappear like a dream
Major victory in battle at Saint-Georges - Driving Würmser to retreat once again!
We haven't lost so we must be winning
over whelming
Still, we con-tinued to report our wins to Paris
This battle had been a tough one, leaving us with no definite sense of victory
boom
bam
Mama, here's an article about the general again

Happy to make your acquaintance, madame
I'm one of the key figures in this district
I'm pleased to receive an audience by you Mme. General
You're the sacred lady of victory indeed
Leave it to you to look so beautiful, Mme. General
Brother Louis is with those two a lot
He probably considers them curious people
Hey... let me see the paper
Okay. Let's read it outside
Yeah, really
Mama's so busy meeting all these people who come to see her
Come on Fortune, let's go out in the garden
ruff

Aa~hh
For-tune!
yelp
He'll divorce her as soon as he does
I guess he hasn't read my letter yet
Don't call him by a name she gave him
When it's all our brother Napoleon's who's made all the achieve-ments
But that woman! She's acting like a queen
Fortune! Oh Fortune!
grr
Hortense?
Scat
Shoo!
Shoo!
rustle rustle
Stop it Cantal!
It's the hunting dog mother got

Come, Cantal
Good dog
...
Poor Fortune
Horten se...
weep
His glory, his prizes– everything belongs to me and the Bonaparte family
I'm the lady of this place when Napoleone is away
the rose of Corsica
the proud mother of the general
I will never let that woman have it
You're a good hunting dog, doing exactly what I wanted you to do
I'm so glad I got you
and go running back to Paris
Those fools can cry
gasp
Is that how you truly feel, mother?

Poor Fortune
Hortense and Eugene are very sad
as am I...
A general's wife is shaken by a dog's fate?
You aren't worthy as the wife of a general
hmph
I don't allow people who hurt or sadden my family to be near us
I understand that's the type of person that you are
Please go back to Marseilles
glare
What?
I'm the general's mother-do you think you can order me around?
You leave my son and go back to Paris!
He doesn't need an old maid like you!

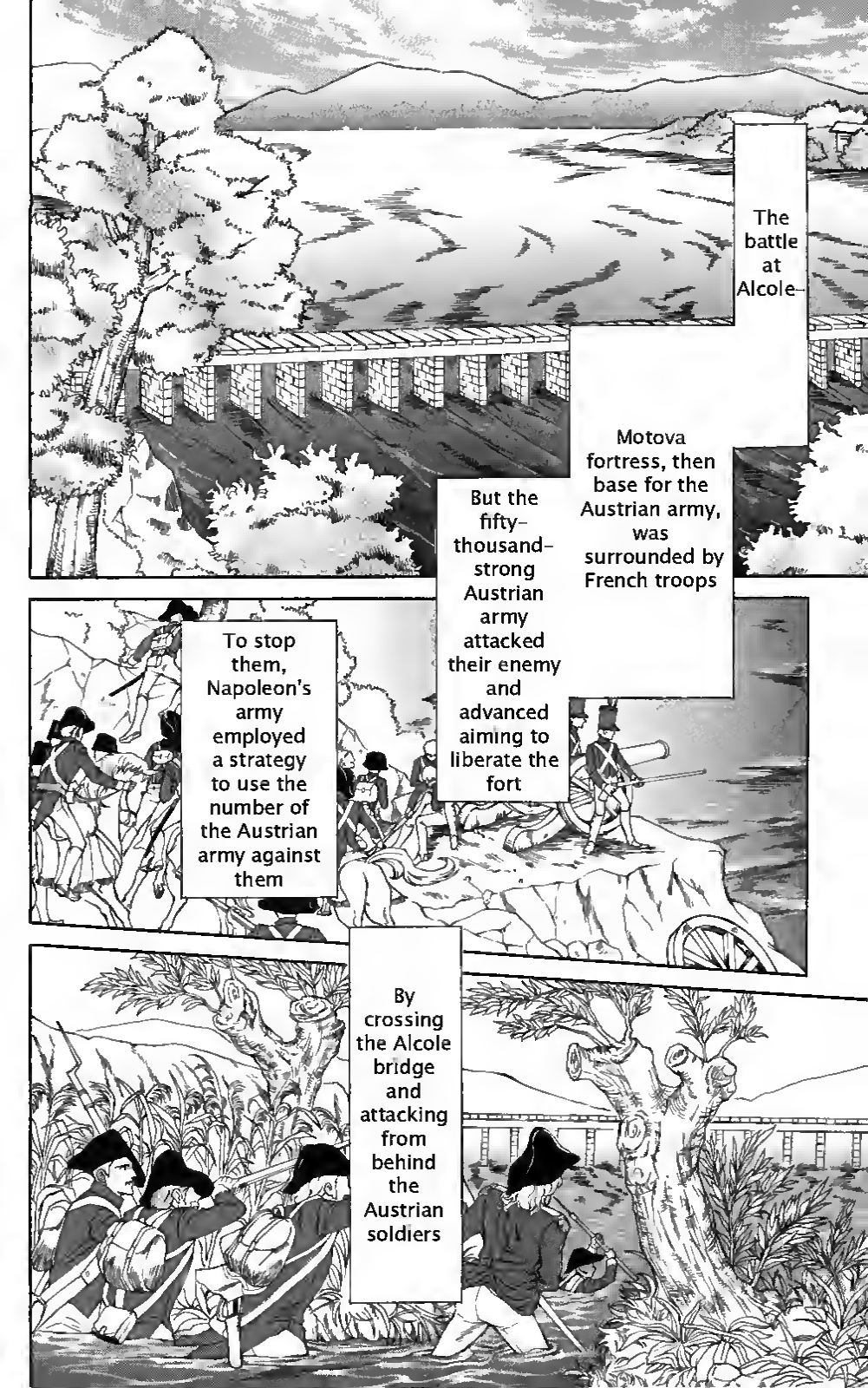
I'll make sure that you are divorced!
This, too, is a battlefield, Bonaparte
crackle
crackle
This is a women's fight!
Ooh
General?

We need to somehow cut off their communi-cation line
Our enemies have double our number of men and they're moving in a long line toward the Mantova fort
You're tired. It's been a tough battle
I'm suddenly getting the shivers
She always asks you for things like that?
She's probably asking for jewels or pretty fabrics
Hm
But I always send our winnings to Josephine first
What are you doing?
rustle rustle
that I have in my inside pocket
I'd forgotten ...it's a letter from Pauline crinkle
General ?
We cross the Alpone river and attack from a side of the Austrians stretched northward
General, there's a way we can cut off the enemy's communi-cation line!
Ah, yes, she'd mentioned it
The house is a warehouse for presents from Bonaparte
laugh

Did Josephine go to your room on the night that we left?
Naked? Oh, come on
that she saw her walking out of your room practically naked
It says so in Pauline's letter
where did I put it?
My scarf...
As a promise to come home safely
Made moiselle just brought this to me

We set up a formation at Alcole bridge and break through the enemy line
We'll also need men to cross the river directly
I'll explain the rest of my plan
This is no time to start getting jealous of me
Hasn't some-thing been going on?
Anyway, you spend more time with her than I do!
You go
And at the head on the river-
!?
You might die
There'll be concen-trated fire on the flag
I'll wave a flag and attract the enemy's attention. You can then-
That's my intention

He's hopelessly in love
He isn't willing to lend a ear
I'll see you tomorrow, sir!
That's the end of our strategy meeting
flomp
sigh
It's just like Eliama said he's "the one person who will truly love her"
Become the king of France, Napoleon. Take Mademoiselle to great heights!


The battle at Alcole–
Motova fortress, then base for the Austrian army, was surrounded by French troops
But the fifty-thousand-strong Austrian army attacked their enemy and advanced aiming to liberate the fort
To stop them, Napoleon's army employed a strategy to use the number of the Austrian army against them
By crossing the Alcole bridge and attacking from behind the Austrian soldiers

thud
bang
bang
Follow me!
We will win!
Who do you think you are issuing orders?
I'm taking the lead
grab
Jealousy and war are different!
General
Follow me!

わあ
roar
わあ
roar
わあ
わあ
ドゥ
bam
Stay a group, as close to each other as you can
We need more force
The Austrian forces lined up against the shore and began firing at the French army
thud
thud
thud

thud
bang
bang
bang
bang
Give me that flag!
They're aiming right at it!
whoosh

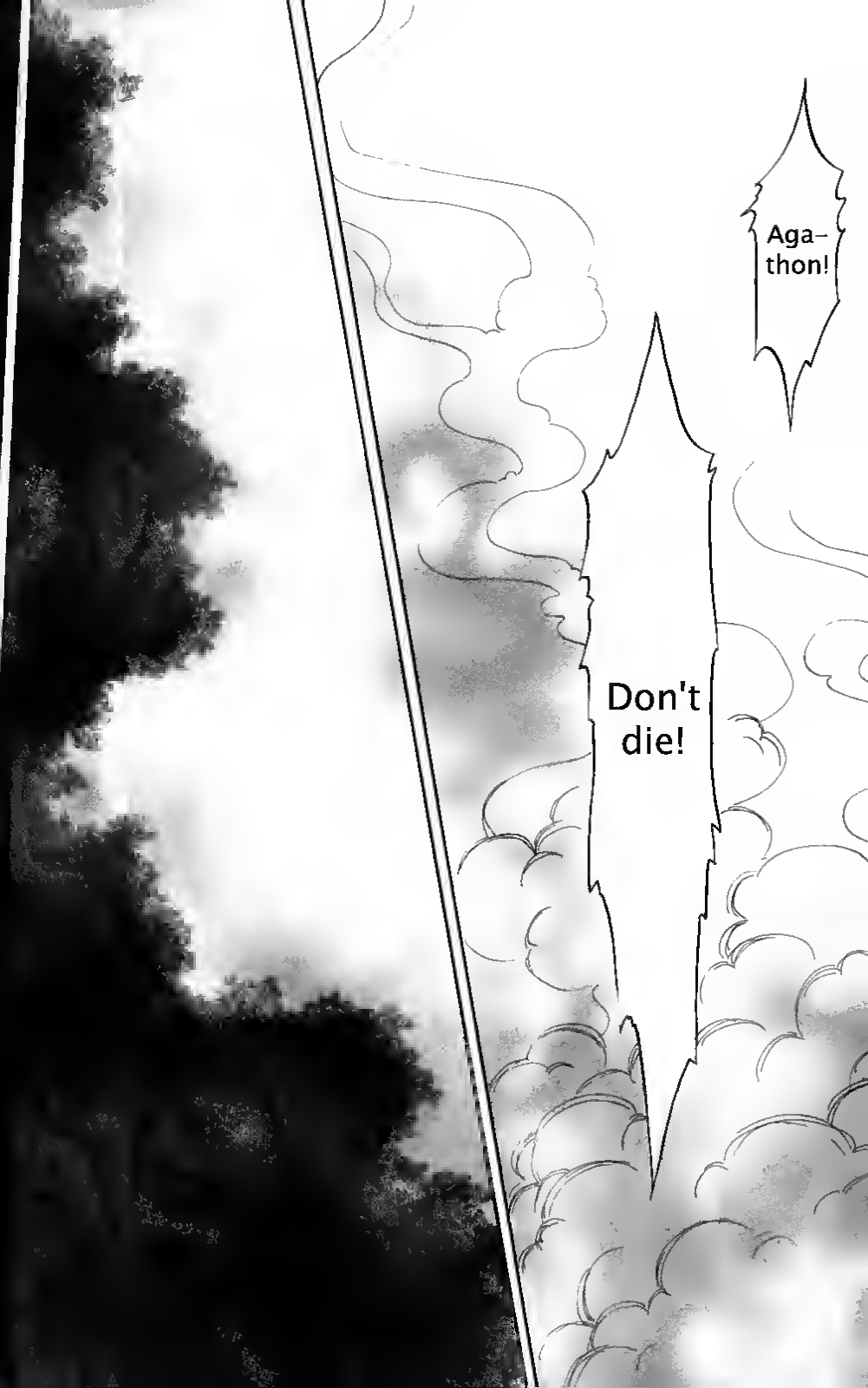
We're almost there! We'll force ourselves over this damned bridge!
Agathon!
Onward, brave soldiers!
Let's go!
whoosh
bang
bang
Agathon's making a wall in front of me with his back
Bullets are flying past my ears
thud
thud
roar

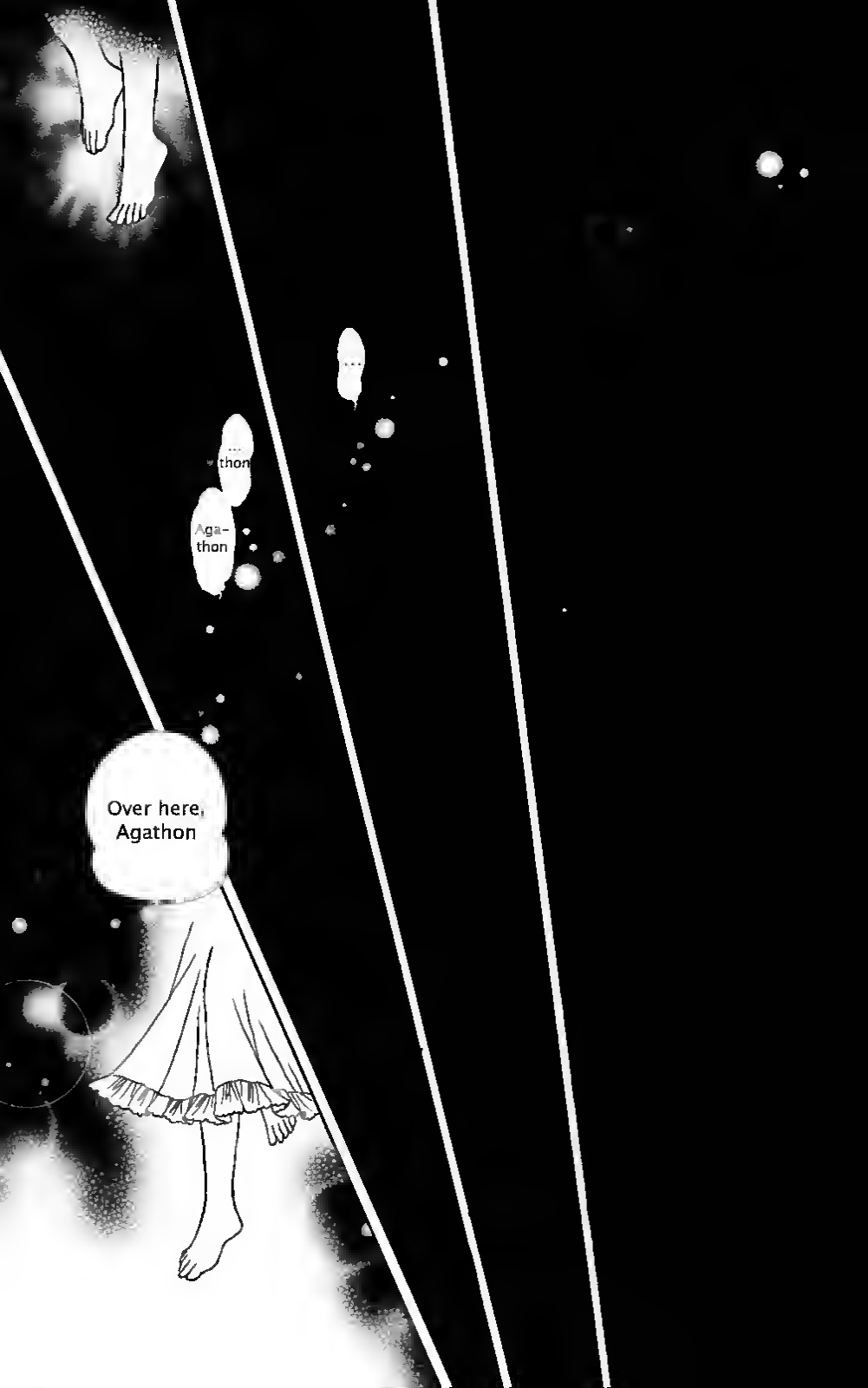
The man I told last night to die is protecting me!
The French army crossed the bridge and got the Austrian forces under control
roar
We're occupying Alcole village!
roar
Cut them off!

I got some amazing sketches
Aga-thon, are you all right?
creak
...onto the flag
It was the general who was holding on
The sketches are fantastic
Of course
Clutching the French flag, the man stopped breathing
Aga-thon!
Aga-thon!
thump

Idiot! He's still alive
Aga-thon!
The death of a hero indeed. .
...Tell Mademoi-selle...
Agathon!
to break my promise...
I'm sorry...
Tell her what?

You're Josephine's brother?
That's why you're so close!
But ...
I died... as her brother...
Agathon! Don't die!
Josephine will never forgive me if you die!


Aga–
thon!
Don't
die!

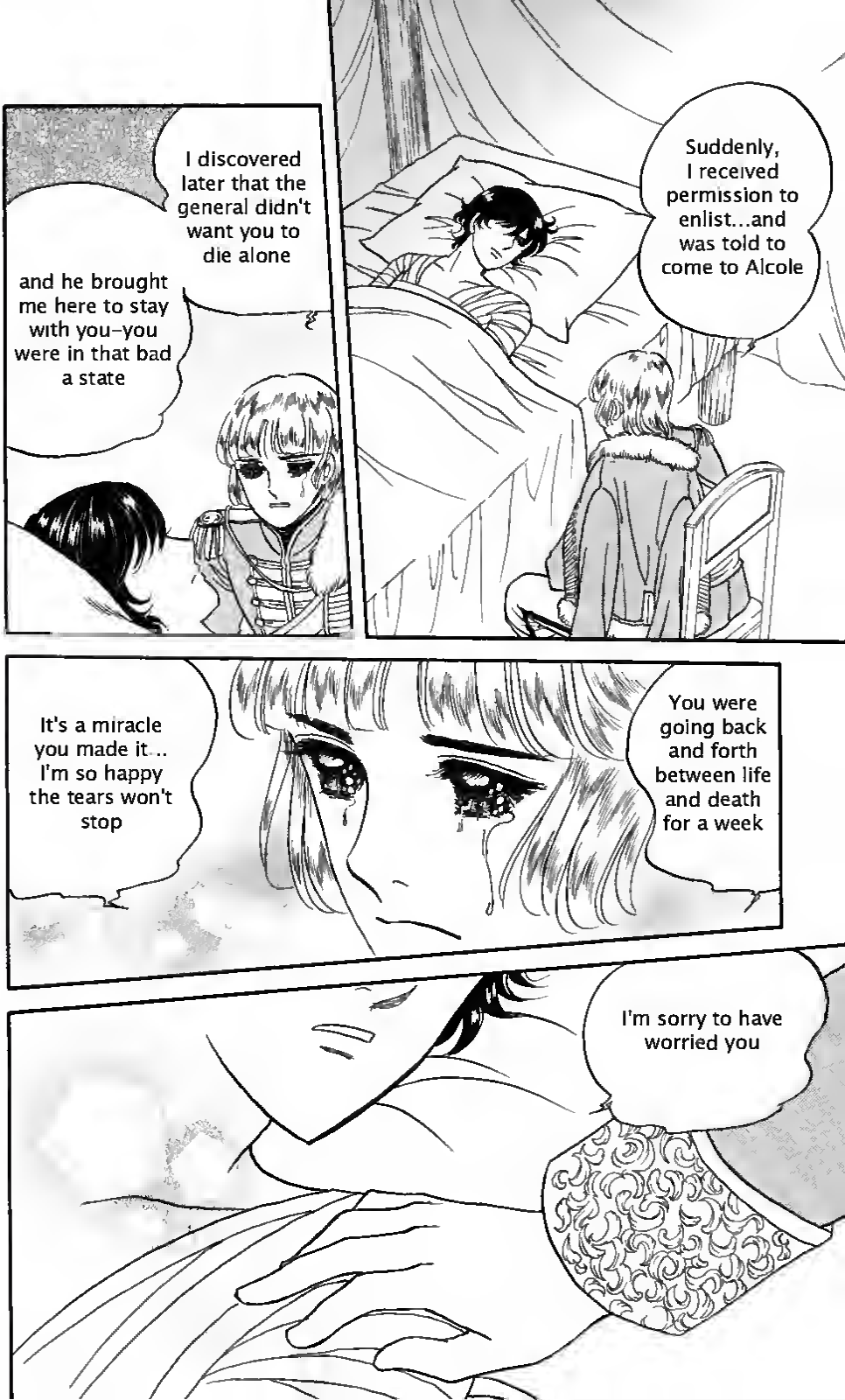

...
...thon
Aga-thon
Over here, Agathon

We have guests tonight
so Marion will be late getting home
Mlle. Catherine
Come here, sweetie
Adorable little Agathon
Agathon's sleeping in my room
Oh, Catherine, that's not fair
Let's go and sleep in my room
Come on, Agathon,
I have cookies
Agathon wants to sleep with me
Right?
squeeze
No, Francoise

Rose!
We'll all sleep with cute little Agathon together
Oh? You're both here already?
I'll hold Agathon
Me, too
I'm getting in next to him
very warm...
So warm...
I'll hold him!
yak yak
ha ha ha
Oh, Rose, that's not fair
ha ha ha

warm
...
The doctor said you'd wake up if we kept you warm
He said you'd make it if you woke up
The hero's opened his eyes
Yes!
Do you live in this village?
Yup
That's why I had such a dream...
clomp
Agathon!

Master Alexandre?
Thank you, children
Now go on home and get some rest
Thank you sir!
Thanks!
Master Eugene, you look so good in military clothing...
Aga-thon


Suddenly, I received permission to enlist...and was told to come to Alcole
I discovered later that the general didn't want you to die alone
and he brought me here to stay with you-you were in that bad a state
You were going back and forth between life and death for a week
It's a miracle you made it... I'm so happy the tears won't stop
I'm sorry to have worried you

Please understand it isn't just Mama-Hortense and I would be deeply saddened if you died
sob
You were always there since the day I was born
sob
Don't be sorry. Of course I worry- we're family
sob
that you kept moving ahead... why did you do something so crazy?
sob
sob
The general said you exposed yourself to enemy fire no matter how he tried to stop you
sob
I was always worried about Mademoiselle and the two children
Please, Master Eugene... say no more
I was worried every day about how I'd tel Mama and Hortense if you didn't make it
sob
sob
You won't understand if I don't tell you
I never dreamed of them worrying about me

How's he doing?
waah
This will be my last time to cry before I go back to the general to tell him that you've recovered
Your father would laugh if he saw you crying in your uniform like that
He's doing great
I'll fight for both of us so you take your time and recooperate
The next morning, the still youthful Eugene left a doctor with me and went back to Napoleon himself
He and Napoleon would form a bond stronger than blood

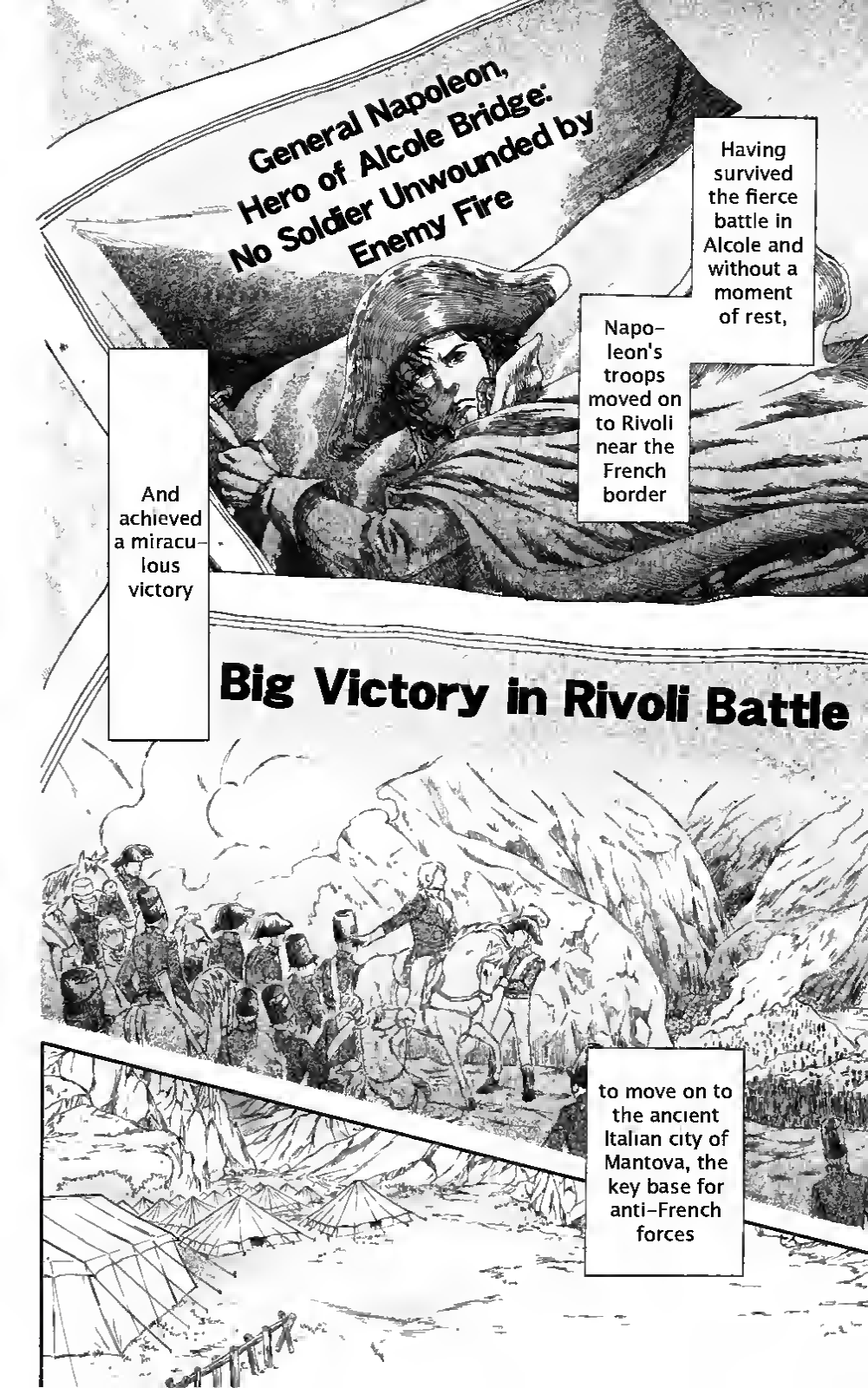
January 1797, Paris
We haven't been receiving any letters from Papa Napoleon recently, eh Mama?
The mayor was saying the other day that they're at a crucial stage of battle
Things must be tough
You're wearing a lot of blush, Mama
It makes me look younger!
You have a guest, madame

Uncle Charles!
Oh, Charles!
Mme. Bonaparte, Mlle. Hortense it's been a while
You've been back?
A souvenir from Martinique– flower seeds and tree seedlings
Marion ...
Mother... father...
You parents and Agathon's mother were all doing well
Things are settling down on the island

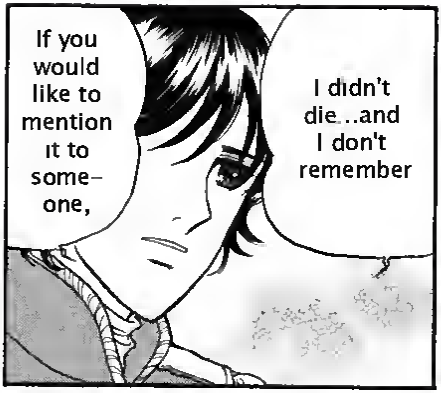
There's one other thing
That's the best news that makes me happy!
Thank you Charles
You mentioned before that your cousin had been captured by pirates
and his mother is said to be a French woman
There's a 12-year-old prince who's in line to inherit the Turkish empire
The mother of a boy who'll inherit an empire...
Pirates in that region sell their captives in Turkey, so-

Eliama's prophecy!
The son that you give birth to will become a prince and then a king–and Mademoiselle Aymee will become empress dowager
Oh, Aymee!
You've been alive!
Mama, our guests are here
How wonderful it would be if it turns out to be my cousin
Yes, of course
Uh, madame, this information hasn't been confirmed...
please don't cry

The general is a hero, and you, his wife, are renowned as the sacred madonna of victory
Your socializing is sure to someday help the general
I've invited the city's influencers who wanted to see me
oh
Please stay and join us for dinner
Please relax and make yourselves at home
We are so happy to meet you
Thank you for your invitation, lady madonna of victory
...I hope so
Aga-thon asked me before he left
smile
to try to boost the number of supporters for Bonaparte in Paris


General Napoleon, Hero of Alcole Bridge: No Soldier Unwounded by Enemy Fire
Having survived the fierce battle in Alcole and without a moment of rest,
Napo-leon's troops moved on to Rivoli near the French border
And achieved a miracu-lous victory
Big Victory in Rivoli Battle
to move on to the ancient Italian city of Mantova, the key base for anti-French forces

General, Advisor Agathon is here reporting in!
grin grin
Hm
Give us a minute, Eugene
Yes sir
...You've finally re-covered, eh?
Yes, sir
Sorry to have worried you

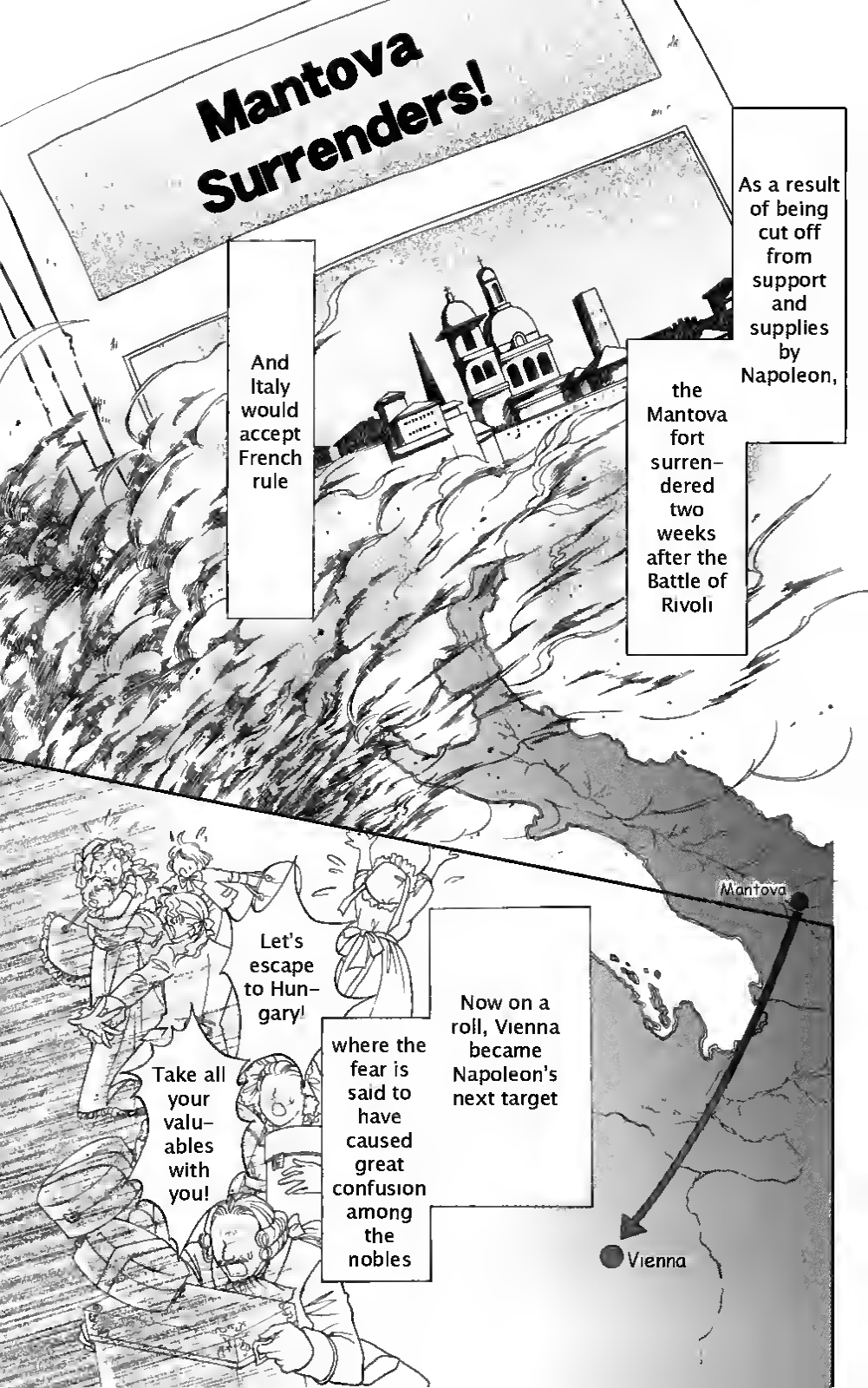

If you would like to mention it to some-one,
I didn't die..and I don't remember

What you told me when you were dying...is it true?

I don't ever want to go through some-thing like that again!
I won't let you die!

That's an order! Under-stand?
As an advisor I want you to stay in the tent. Don't you ever go to the front lines!

Please tell Mademoiselle alone when I really do die

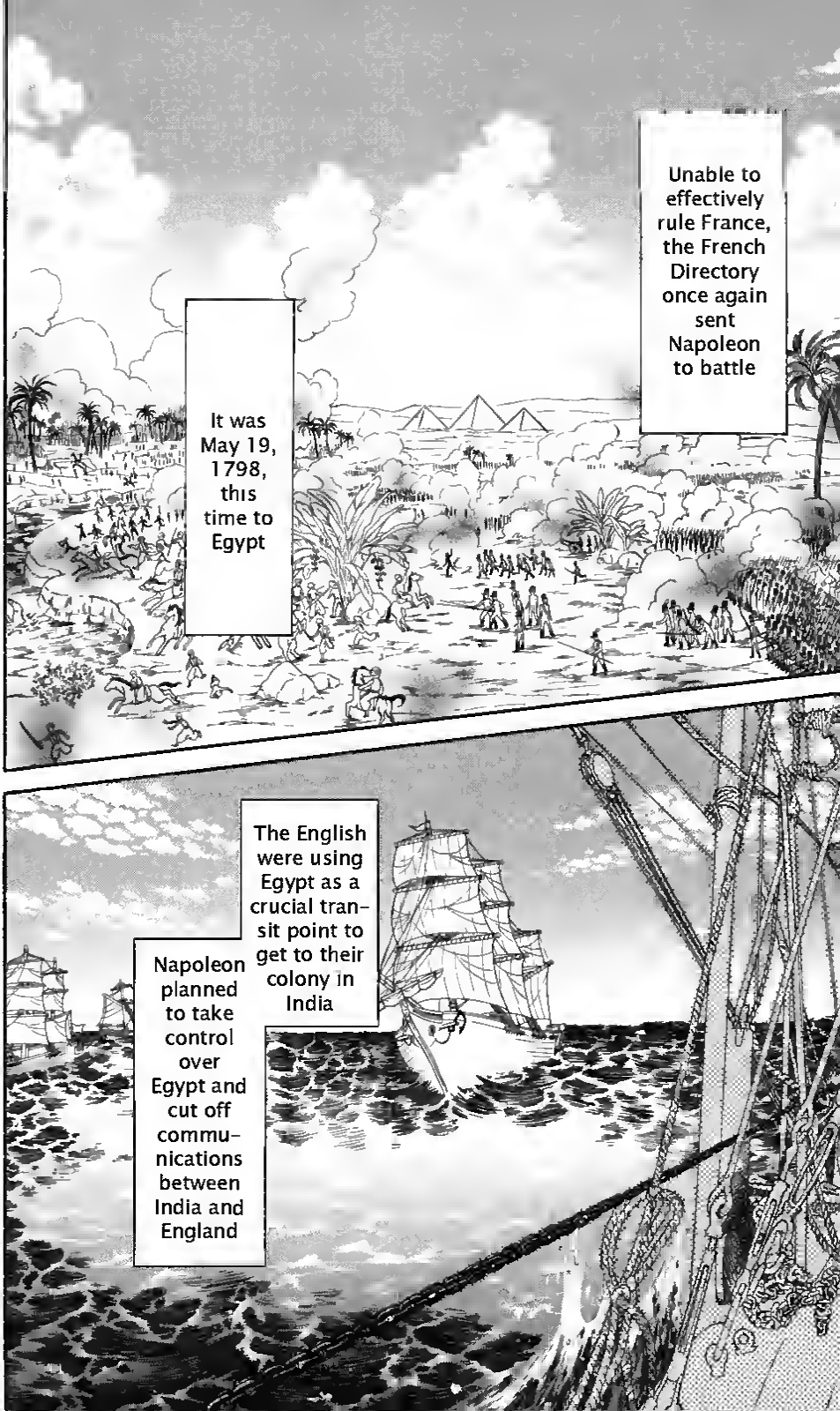

Mantova Surrenders!
As a result of being cut off from support and supplies by Napoleon,
the Mantova fort surrendered two weeks after the Battle of Rivoli
And Italy would accept French rule
Mantova
Vienna
Now on a roll, Vienna became Napoleon's next target
where the fear is said to have caused great confusion among the nobles
Let's escape to Hungary!
Take all your valuables with you!

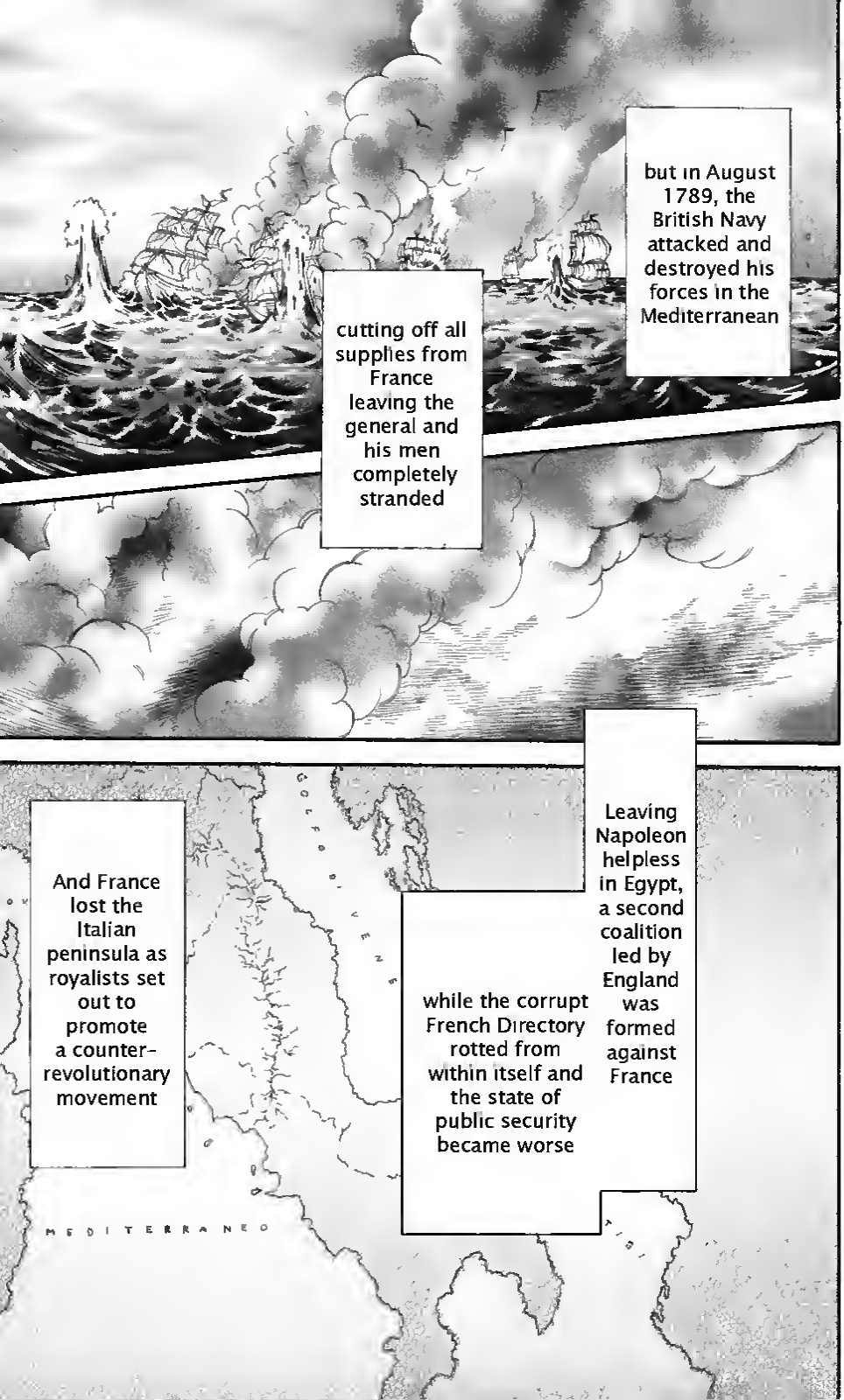
Austria, in a coalition with England, finally signed a peace treaty with Napoleon when he came to within 200 kilometers from Vienna
And for the first time in a year and eight months, Napoleon on December 7, 1797 returned to Paris
What is it, Bona-parte?
Why are you so upset, even at Mr. Barras? The government held the official welcome reception in your honor.
You didn't even smile to the public who assembled hoping to catch a glimpse of you
Actually it boosted his air of dignity

What improvements have there been since the revolution eight years ago?
For three days since we came back, Agathon and I walked around Paris
Yes, sir
I'd like a cup of your delicious tea, Agathon
This is good... it's fantastic
The disparity in wealth is even worse and the cost of war is a big burden on the public
I didn't see anything that's gotten better
sob
What is Barras and everybody doing?
I sent the gold and silver we confiscated in Italy to our government and have been supporting it
Let's talk politics later
Your tea's ready

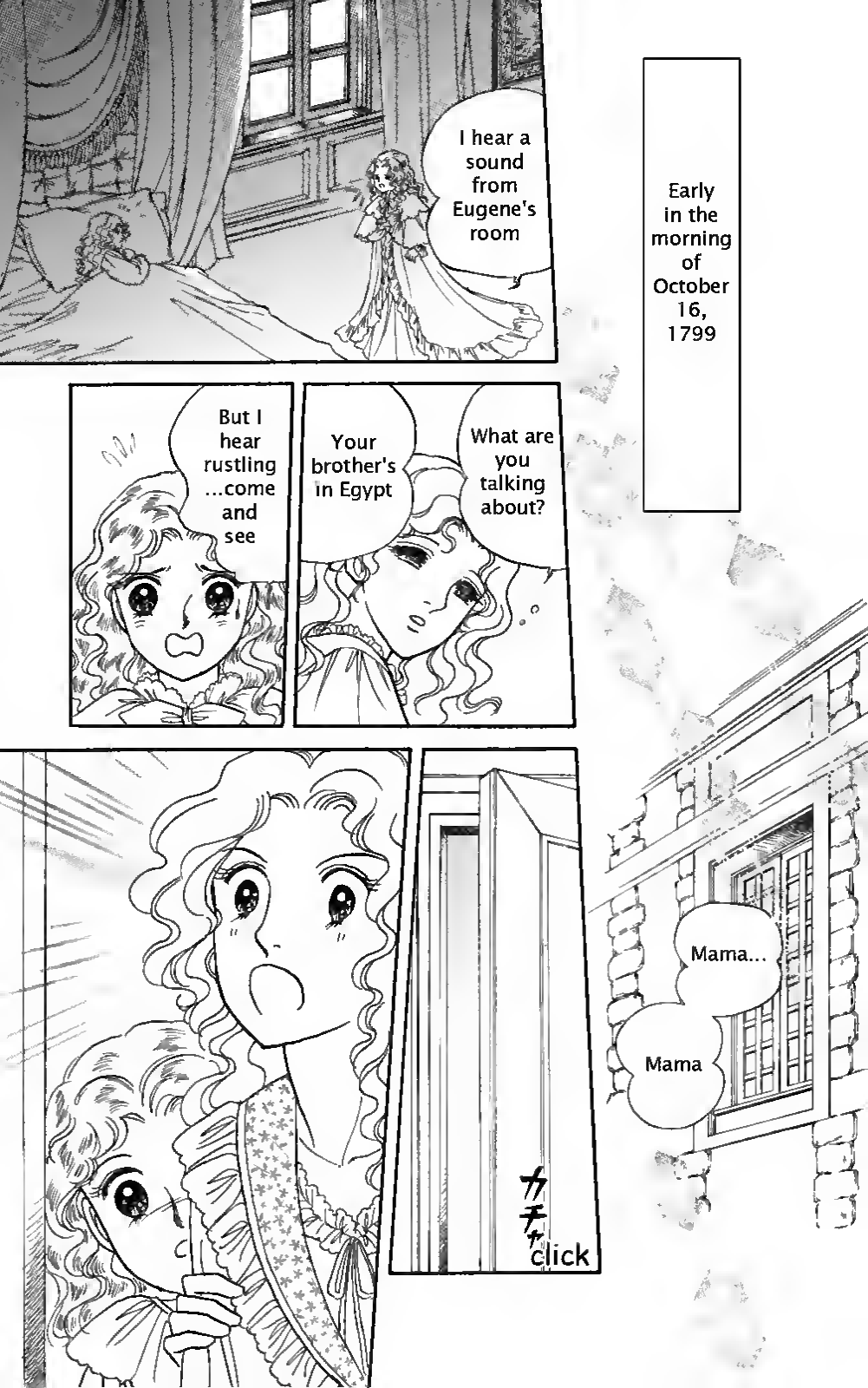
I'm heading to Charles' shop with the children
...
Bona-parte...
I'm fighting for the country and the public.
I'm not fighting battles to make the people of the French Directory rich
Seeing you and drinking tea, al the fight seems to have gone out of me
I'm tired... I've been working for the govern-ment like a slave
Bonaparte, let me see your face

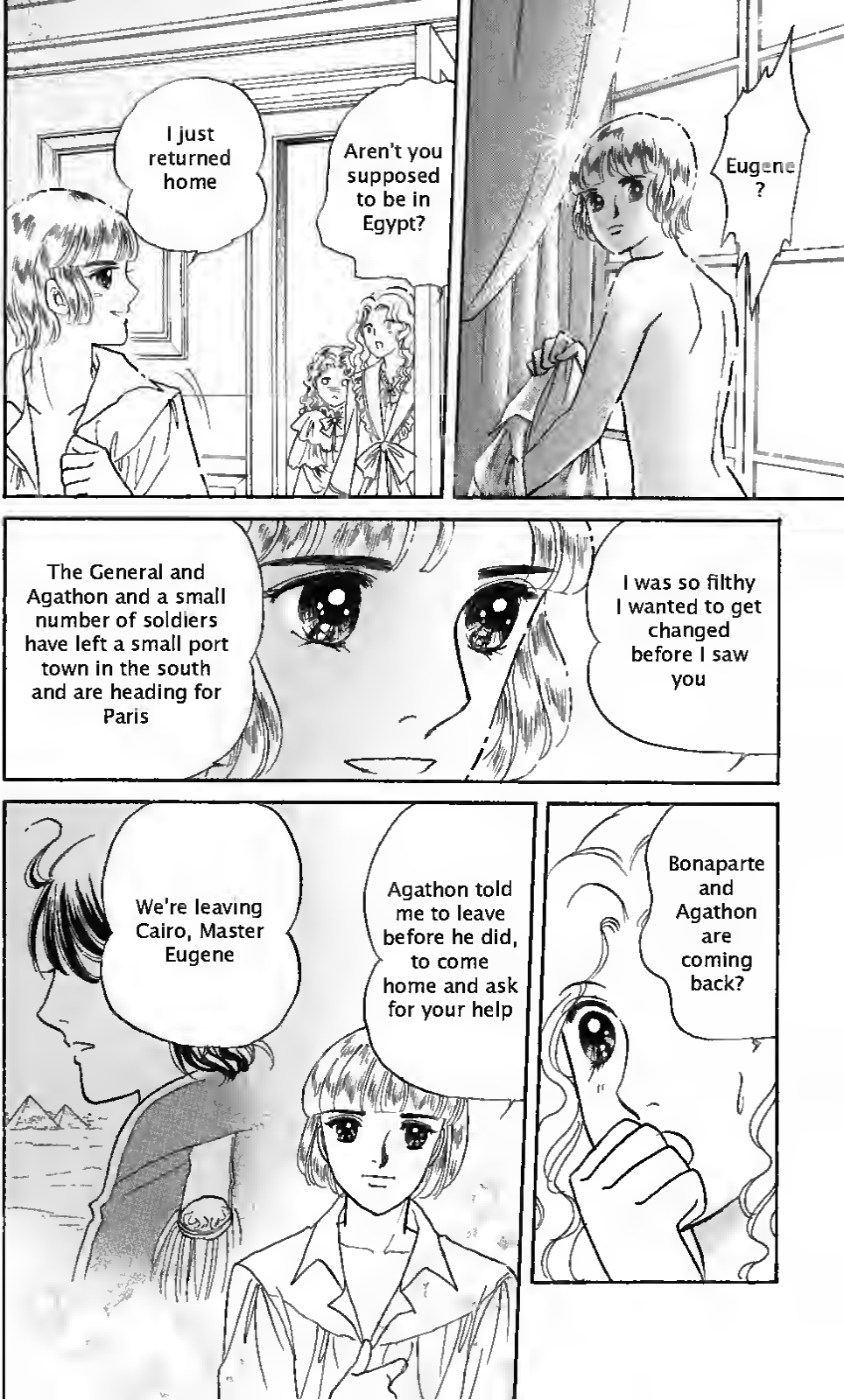
My love for you is getting deeper and deeper
I love you more now than when we first met
My be-loved, please don't cry
I love you
Bona-parte . .
I love you...
That's my line
Jose-phine
So from now on, I'll say them when you're tired
You always lavish me with words of love

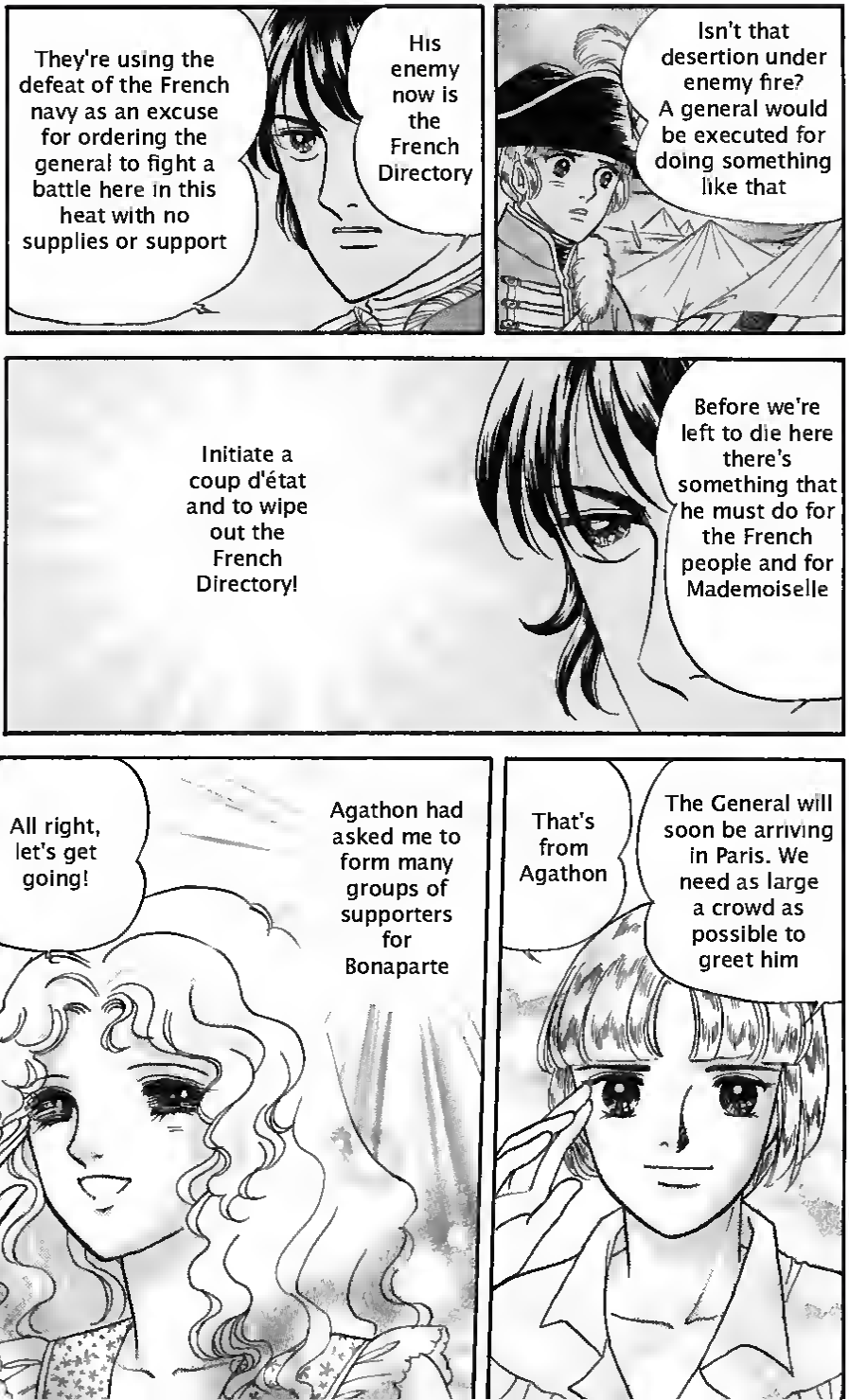

Unable to effectively rule France, the French Directory once again sent Napoleon to battle
It was May 19, 1798, this time to Egypt
The English were using Egypt as a crucial transit point to get to their colony in India
Napoleon planned to take control over Egypt and cut off communications between India and England


but in August 1789, the British Navy attacked and destroyed his forces in the Mediterranean
cutting off all supplies from France leaving the general and his men completely stranded
Leaving Napoleon helpless in Egypt, a second coalition led by England was formed against France
while the corrupt French Directory rotted from within itself and the state of public security became worse
And France lost the Italian peninsula as royalists set out to promote a counter-revolutionary movement
MEDITERRANEO

The French people had been disap-pointed by the French Directory
What had been the purpose of the revolu-tion?
Had all the blood-shed been a waste?
Will their hero Napo-leon remain stranded in Egypt?
Even in isolation, Napoleon heard the cries of the public


I hear a sound from Eugene's room
Early in the morning of October 16, 1799
But I hear rustling ...come and see
Your brother's in Egypt
What are you talking about?
Mama...
Mama
カチャ
click


I just returned home
Aren't you supposed to be in Egypt?
Eugene ?
The General and Agathon and a small number of soldiers have left a small port town in the south and are heading for Paris
I was so filthy I wanted to get changed before I saw you
We're leaving Cairo, Master Eugene
Agathon told me to leave before he did, to come home and ask for your help
Bonaparte and Agathon are coming back?

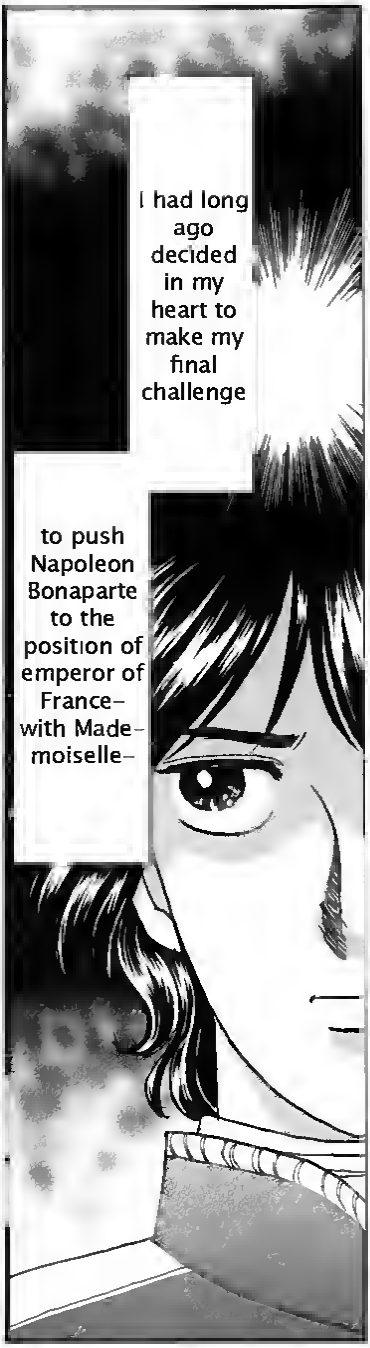

They're using the defeat of the French navy as an excuse for ordering the general to fight a battle here in this heat with no supplies or support
His enemy now is the French Directory
Isn't that desertion under enemy fire? A general would be executed for doing something like that
Initiate a coup d'état and to wipe out the French Directory!
Before we're left to die here there's something that he must do for the French people and for Mademoiselle
All right, let's get going!
Agathon had asked me to form many groups of supporters for Bonaparte
That's from Agathon
The General will soon be arriving in Paris. We need as large a crowd as possible to greet him

We'll tell the republican nobles
We'll call on our in-fluencers
Theresia's new lover
Mademoiselle ran around Paris with the simple message that General Bonaparte was returning
We'll welcome the general home with the sacred lady of victory
Word spread from one person to the next--
and people were delighted that their god of war was returning to Paris where public safety had become an issue
Hurray for Napoleon! Hurray for the republic!

roar
roar
roar
Vive la France !
Hurray for Bonaparte!
By the time Napoleon returned to Paris, crowds had congregated and were overflowing the government buildings
Barras and other leaders came rushing out of their offices
What is this commotion about?
It's a serious breach of your responsibilities returning while on duty!
General Bonaparte ...what is this, a coup d'état?
roar
I'm here with the spirit of the revolution and the consensus of the people
You are immediately to be arrested!

waah
わあああ
I am only walking hand in hand with the gods of war and luck
Your Excellency Barras
waaah
うおおお
Hurray for Bona-parte!
roar
わあ
Hurray for Bona-parte!
...
Hurray!
The cries of the public drowned out both the voices and the intentions of the leaders
And in December 1799, when the Directory was abolished, Napoleon became First Consul
Finally he's climbing up the ladder!

I know you've wanted Malmaison and I'll give it to you. It'll be our home
I'm finally a politician, and I can always be with you


I had long ago decided in my heart to make my final challenge
to push Napoleon Bonaparte to the position of emperor of France– with Mademoiselle–

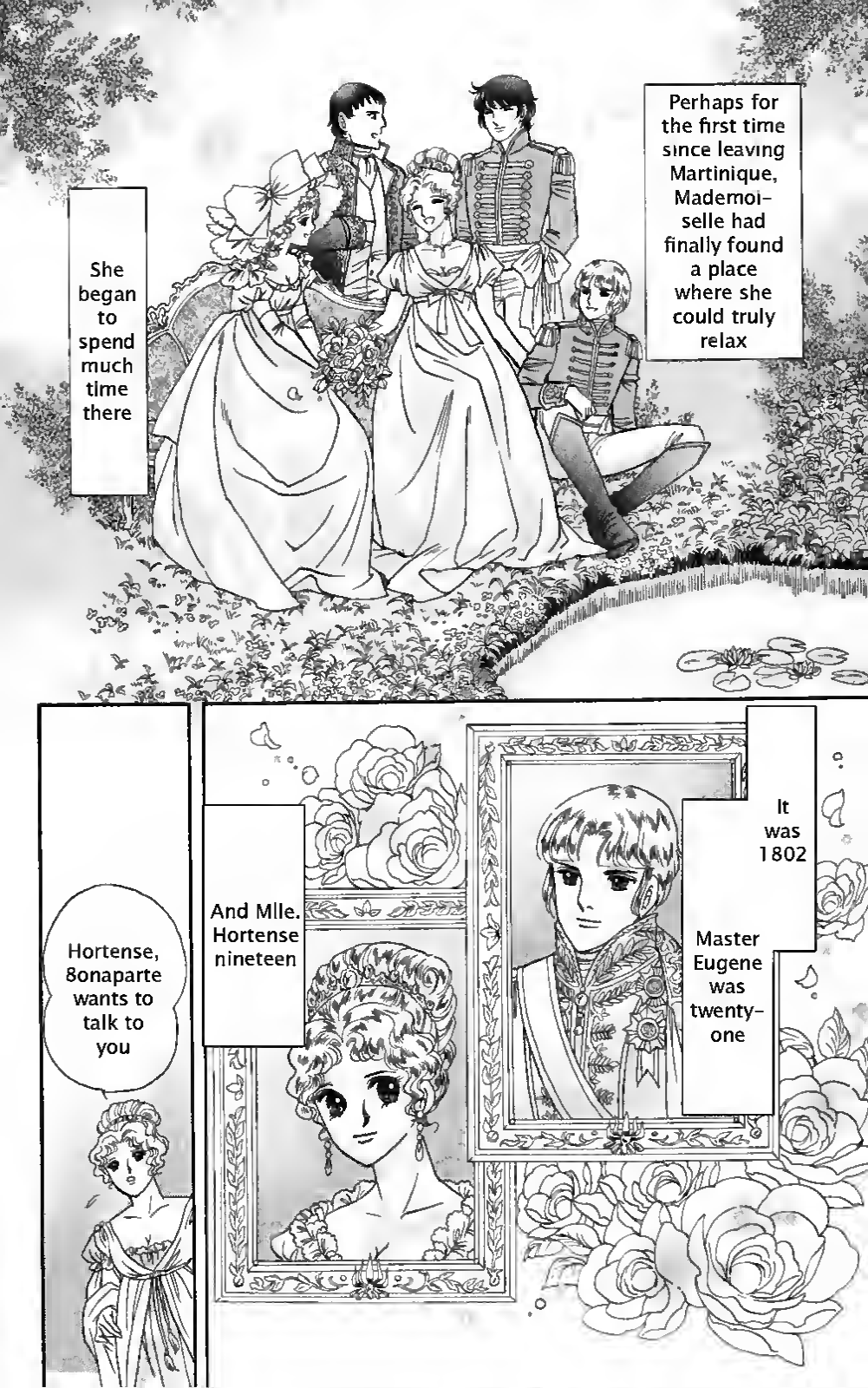
I'd like to fill it with love
I'd like to fill the garden with roses

and the couple were to live there instead
But the following year, Tuileries Palace became the adminis-trative residence
Other countries will expect you to be living here
Please, Mademoiselle, the First Control is the top administrative chief, overseeing the declaration of war and peace, with authority of supreme command for the army and navy, and the right to make motions for the budget and the law
Think about it, kings have always lived here. I wouldn't be surprised if there were ghosts
I want to live at Malmaison
I'm great at hospital-ity
Then we'll make Malmaison a more comfortable place where everyone can relax

There was one more reason why she didn't like Tuileries Palace
And that is...
Everything is so nice and extravagant here
I feel like I'm a queen
You've come again, mother?
I'm the mother of the First Control and I'll come as I please
That's right

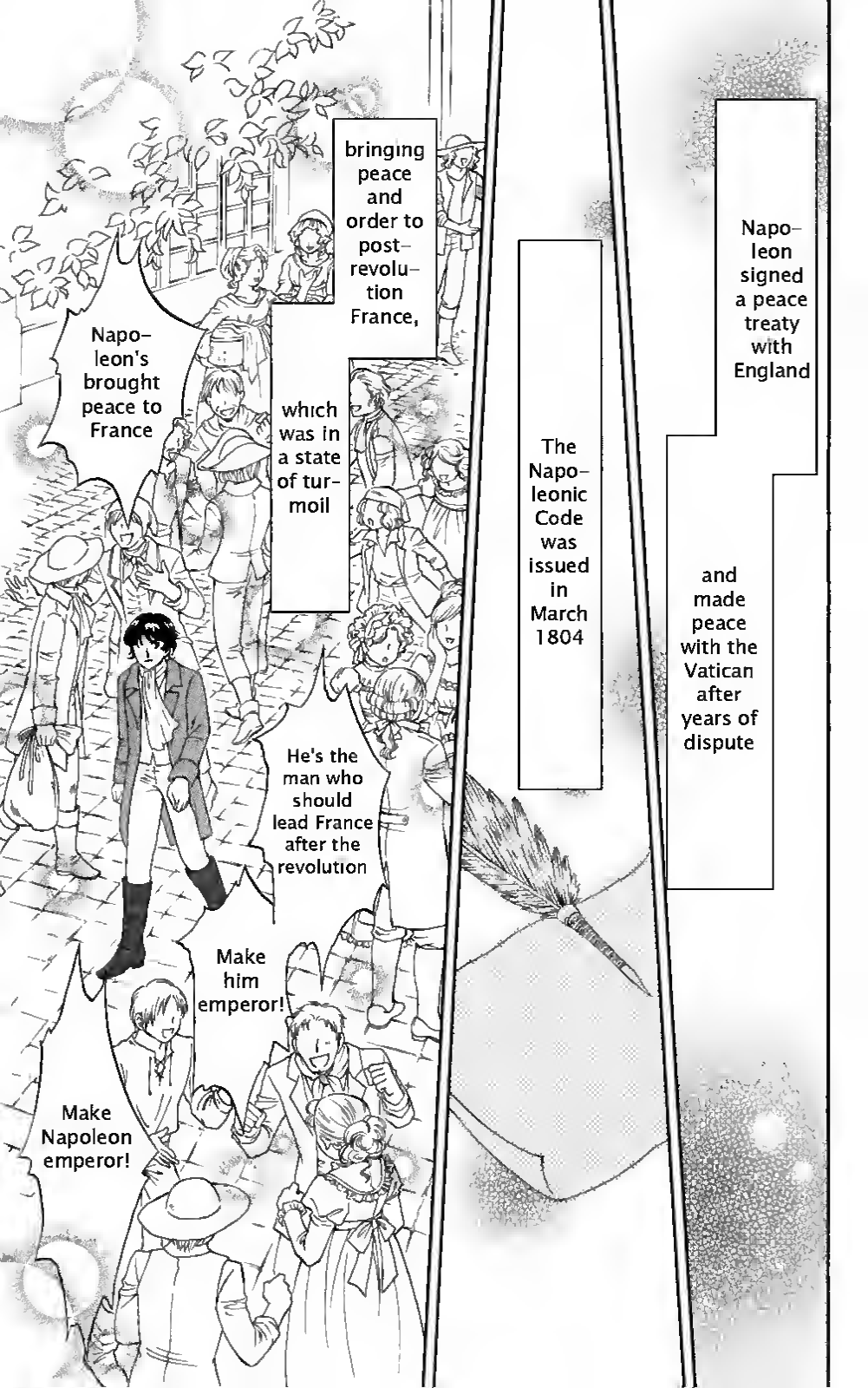
You've been married five years and you still have no news of an heir, Josephine?
Not again, mother
Let it go
He always stands up for me
And mother-in-law always says the same thing back
You are the First Control of France
Who will succeed you if you don't have an heir?
The First Control isn't inherited. It'll just go to a suitable person when the time comes
And I'll spend the rest of my life with my love at Malmaison
She really makes me feel down
Don't worry about it, Mama

I'll have lots of grand-kids and make things lively
Yes- Bonaparte really considers you and Eugene his own
when you both get old
I'll stay with you and Papa Napoleon
Hor... Hortense ...
Josephine, I've es-caped from my mother
He can barely talk about the theater, music, or even books
You know, Louis is really boring
But I can't shoo him away since he's Papa's brother
Wait for me in the conser-vatory
You're here again, Louis?
I guess mother-in-law and her daughters are at Tuileries


Perhaps for the first time since leaving Martinique, Mademoiselle had finally found a place where she could truly relax
She began to spend much time there
It was 1802
Master Eugene was twenty-one
And Mlle. Hortense nineteen
Hortense, Bonaparte wants to talk to you

What do you think, Papa?
Marrying me...
Louis is very interested in marrying you
Of course you can say no, Horstense
Of course it's a fine proposal
I'll leave it to you
All right then
You can say no, you know
Oh, Bonaparte. Why won't Louis speak for himself?
My brother's shy

I wonder if Mlle. Hortense accepted to produce a child with blood from both families...
She was glori-ously beautiful that day
Why don't you
I'm so happy I think I might faint
Louis never did speak for himself-and thus they were married
The Directory declared the end of the revolution after all
Hur-ray for Bona-parte
Hur-ray for Napo-leon
So the ripples from the revolution are finally over
They would eventually have a child named Louis Napoleon who would rule France as Napoleon III

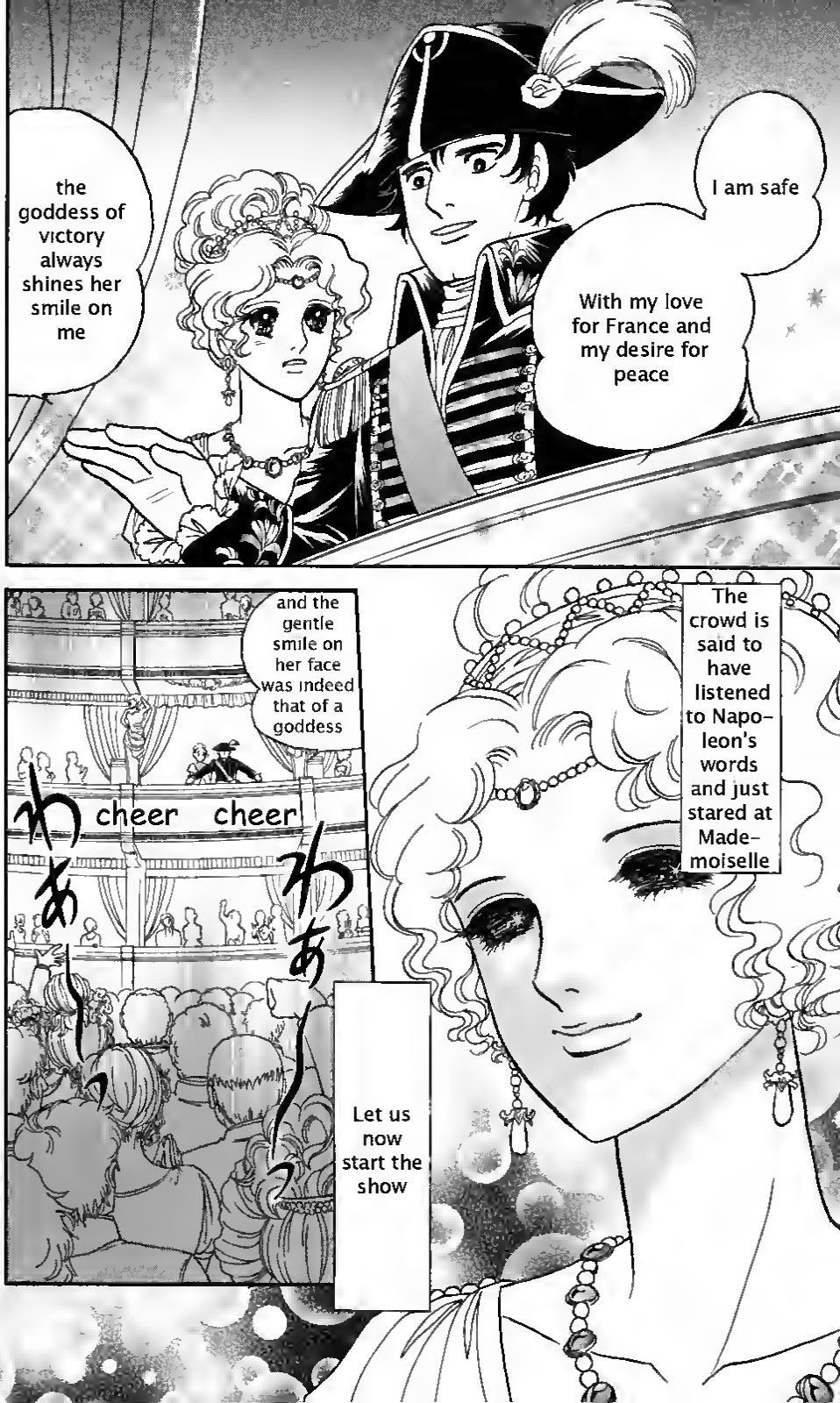

Napo-
leon's
brought
peace to
France
bringing
peace
and
order to
post-
revolu-
tion
France,
which
was in
a state
of tur-
moil
He's the
man who
should
lead France
after the
revolution
Make
him
emperor!
Make
Napoleon
emperor!
The
Napo-
leonic
Code
was
issued
in
March
1804
Napo-
leon
signed
a peace
treaty
with
England
and
made
peace
with the
Vatican
after
years of
dispute

But there are also pro-royalists and others in support of Louis XVIII attempting to remove him
The city of Paris is filled with people who want Napoleon to become emperor
bang
aaah
A bomb's been thrown into the home of a republican merchant
Regardless of the method, the seeds of potential threats
must be crushed!
whirl
A pro-Napoleon banker's been assassinated

I heard it ends with a chorus to praise me
rattle
rattle
How long's it been since we went to see an opera together?
I'm so happy
rattle
rattle
I asked him to do yours next
The portraits our official painter David did of you are terrific
aaah
naay
naay
ka-boom

naaay
Someone tried to kill us?
There was a hidden bomb!
What is it?
I'll leave you to take care of things, Agathon
Don't panic, we won't make our enemies happy. We're going straight to the theater
Is Paris really becoming peaceful?
Or is it like the time of the revolution again ...?
I'm right here, I'll protect you, Josephine
Bona-parte...
Yes sir!

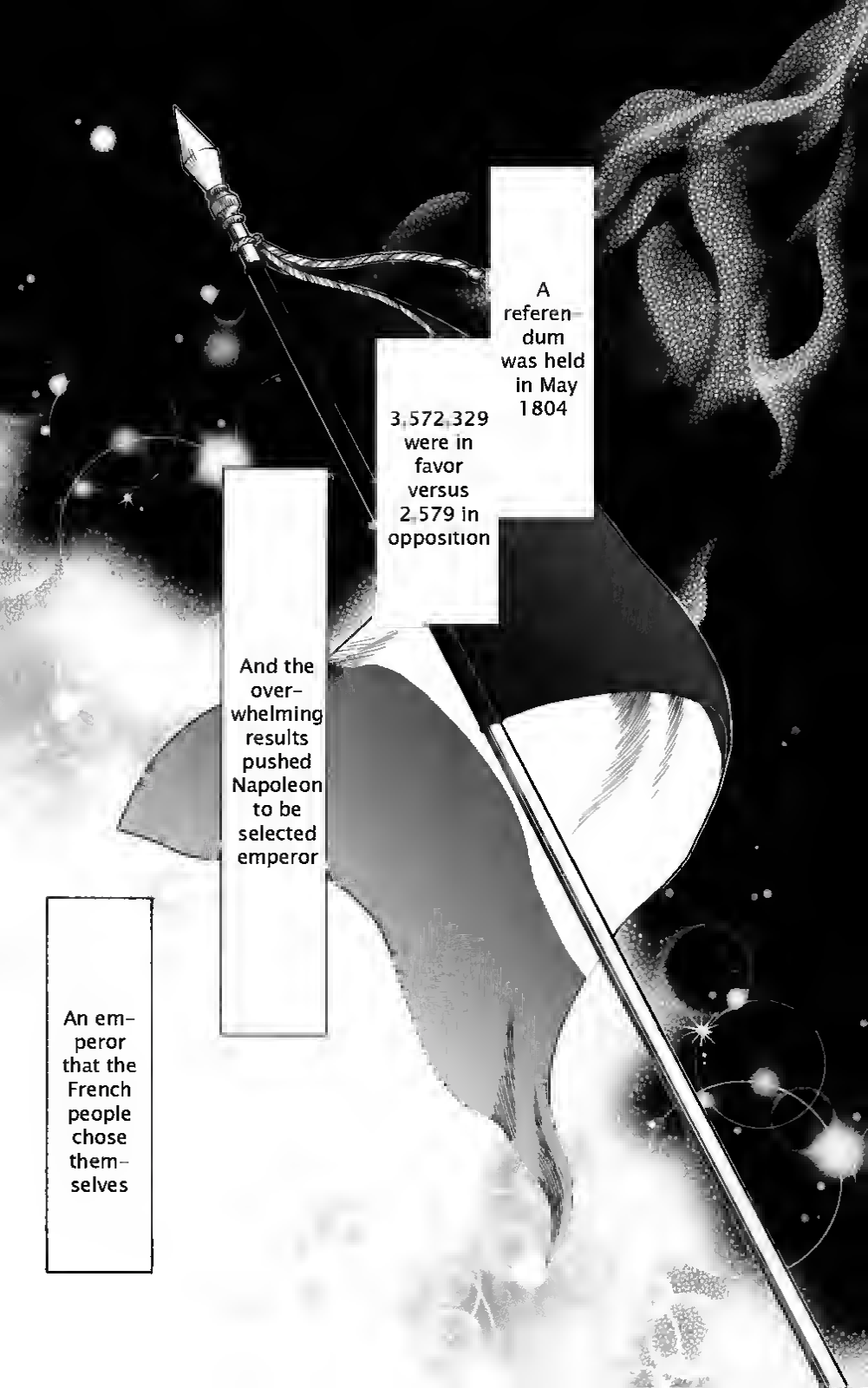
Now we have an excuse
I'll take care of our enemies once and for all!
The carriage of the First Control was blown up by a bomb!
rustle rustle
What?
How is the First Cont-rol?
attention
Com-rades
rustle rustle

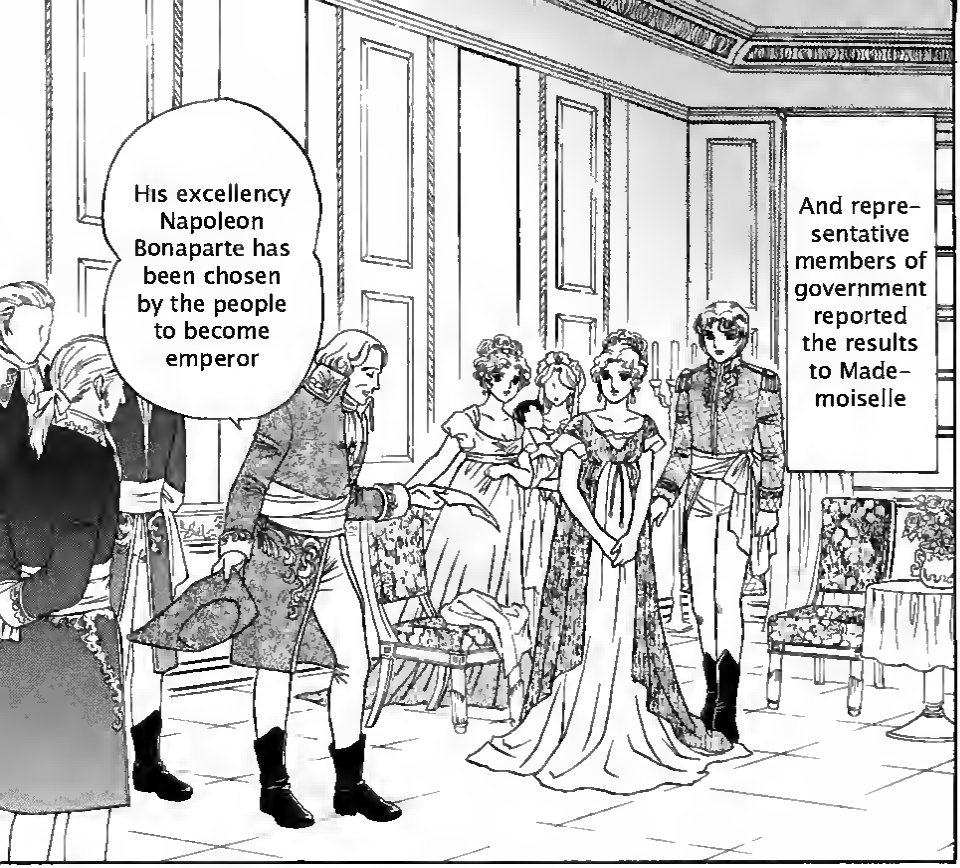

the goddess of victory always shines her smile on me
I am safe
With my love for France and my desire for peace
and the gentle smile on her face was indeed that of a goddess
cheer cheer
わあーっ
わあーっ
Let us now start the show
The crowd is said to have listened to Napoleon's words and just stared at Mademoiselle

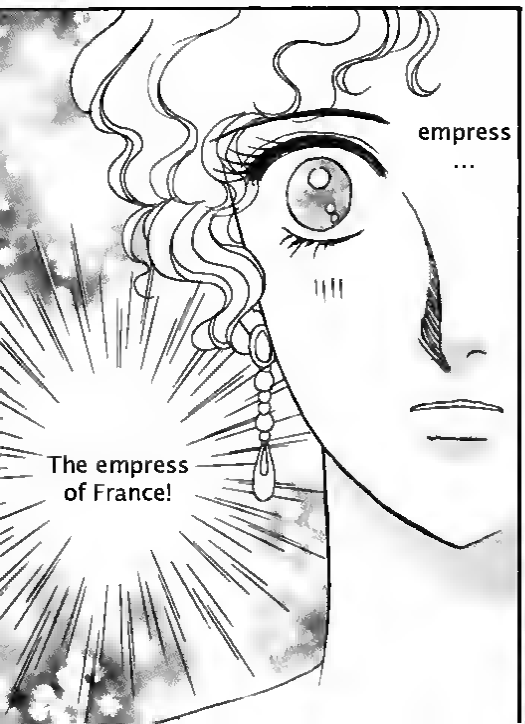
わ
あああああ
Waaah
Charge!
Surround the pro-royals!
Don't let a single man escape!
Kill anyone who resists!
わあああああ
Waaah
キャー
Aaah

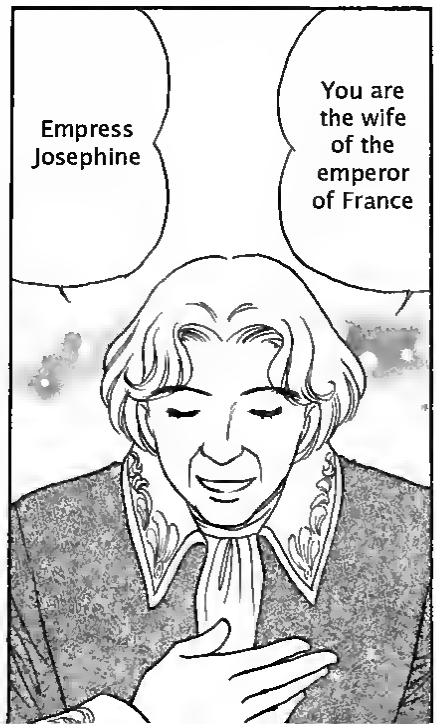
You're under arrest for plotting to assassinate the First Consul!
No, I'm innocent!
Stop!
I'm innocent!
Saint-Just...
Waaah
Are you watching?
Are you laughing?
stab
swoosh

My hands are now covered in blood
The way yours had been!


A referendum was held in May 1804
3,572,329 were in favor versus 2,579 in opposition
And the overwhelming results pushed Napoleon to be selected emperor
An emperor that the French people chose themselves


His excellency Napoleon Bonaparte has been chosen by the people to become emperor
And representative members of government reported the results to Mademoiselle


empress ...
The empress of France!


Empress Josephine
You are the wife of the emperor of France

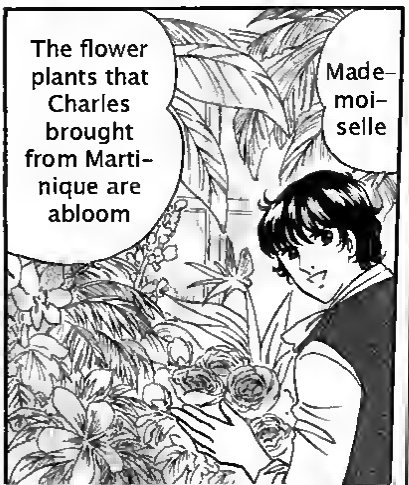
Mother!
Mother!
The senate is filled with emotion to call you by your title for the first time
Your highness, Empress Josephine
Mademoi-selle!
The French people all know that your kindness has always been directed to the poor

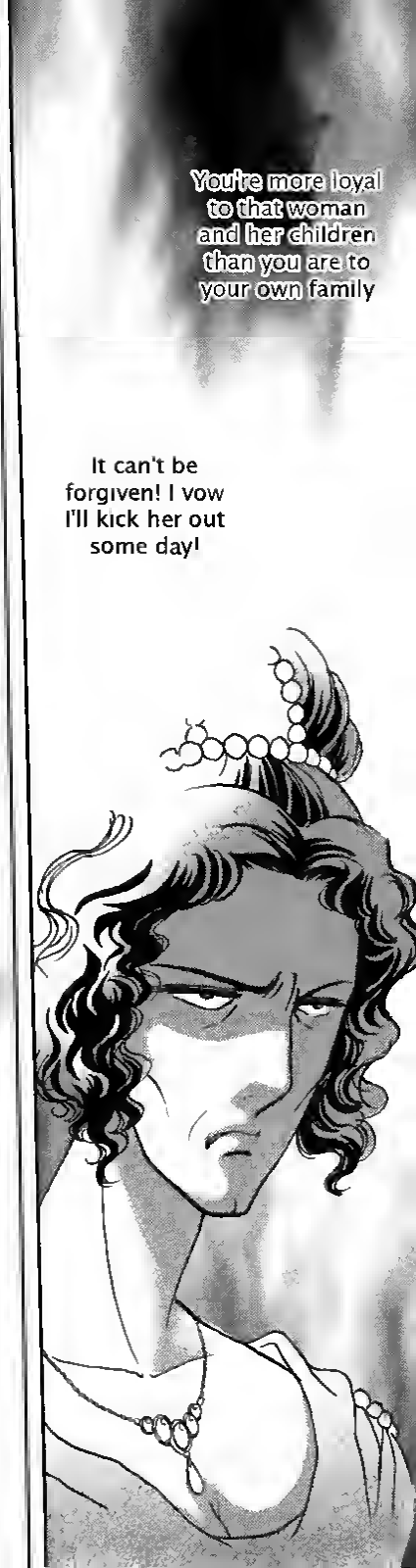
Mlle. Hortense last year gave birth to Charles and is expecting her second child in autumn
Mad-emoi-selle
You will become greater than a queen
It's exactly the way Eliama predicted!
Napoleon will adopt Charles and rule France with his empress
Everything's going smoothly

That woman, an empress!?
I will never allow it!
bang
youngest son Jerome
third son Lucien
third daughter Caroline
second daughter Pauline
eldest son Joseph
eldest daughter Elise
Make me your successor after you die
I'd like to be emperor
I agree
I married General Murat on your recommendation, it isn't fair that Eugene has a higher rank!
It'll be detracting to us, having Mme. Beauharnais become empress

Though Louis didn't come because Hortense is having his second baby
You're making that woman an empress? I called them here to correct your mistake.
You don't look like you're here to congratulate me
Why are all of you here?
How about my husband? I'd like to be empress, too
It should be me, I'm the youngest
Hey, I have a right to succeed him too
You aren't planning to make Louis kid your successor, are you Napoleone?
Don't kill me, I haven't even had my coronation yet! And Josephine will be my empress no matter what!
Shut up!

There you are. I've been looking for you
Aga-thon

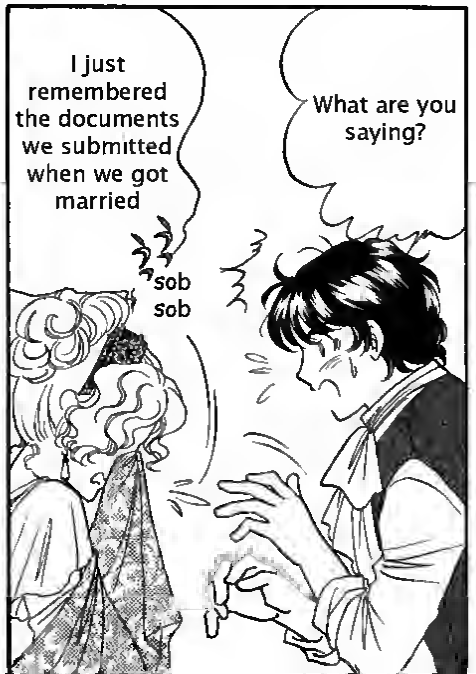

The flower plants that Charles brought from Marti-nique are abloom
Made-moi-selle


You're more loyal to that woman and her children than you are to your own family
It can't be forgiven! I vow I'll kick her out some day!

Agathon
. . .
Even the cactus plant is blooming as if celebrating tomorrow's coronation

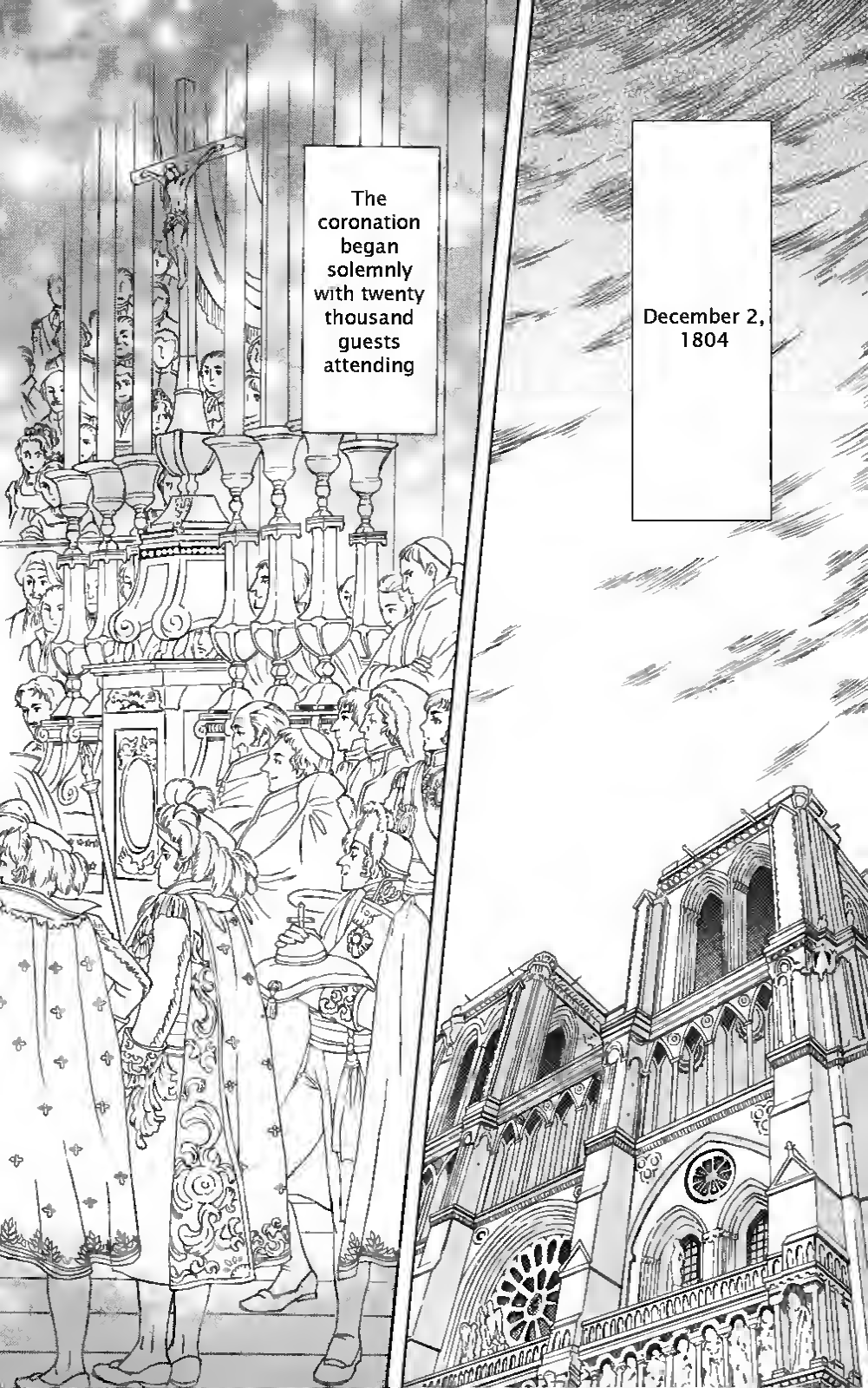
I'm not Bonaparte's wife
I can't become empress
. . .
ふぇっ
sob

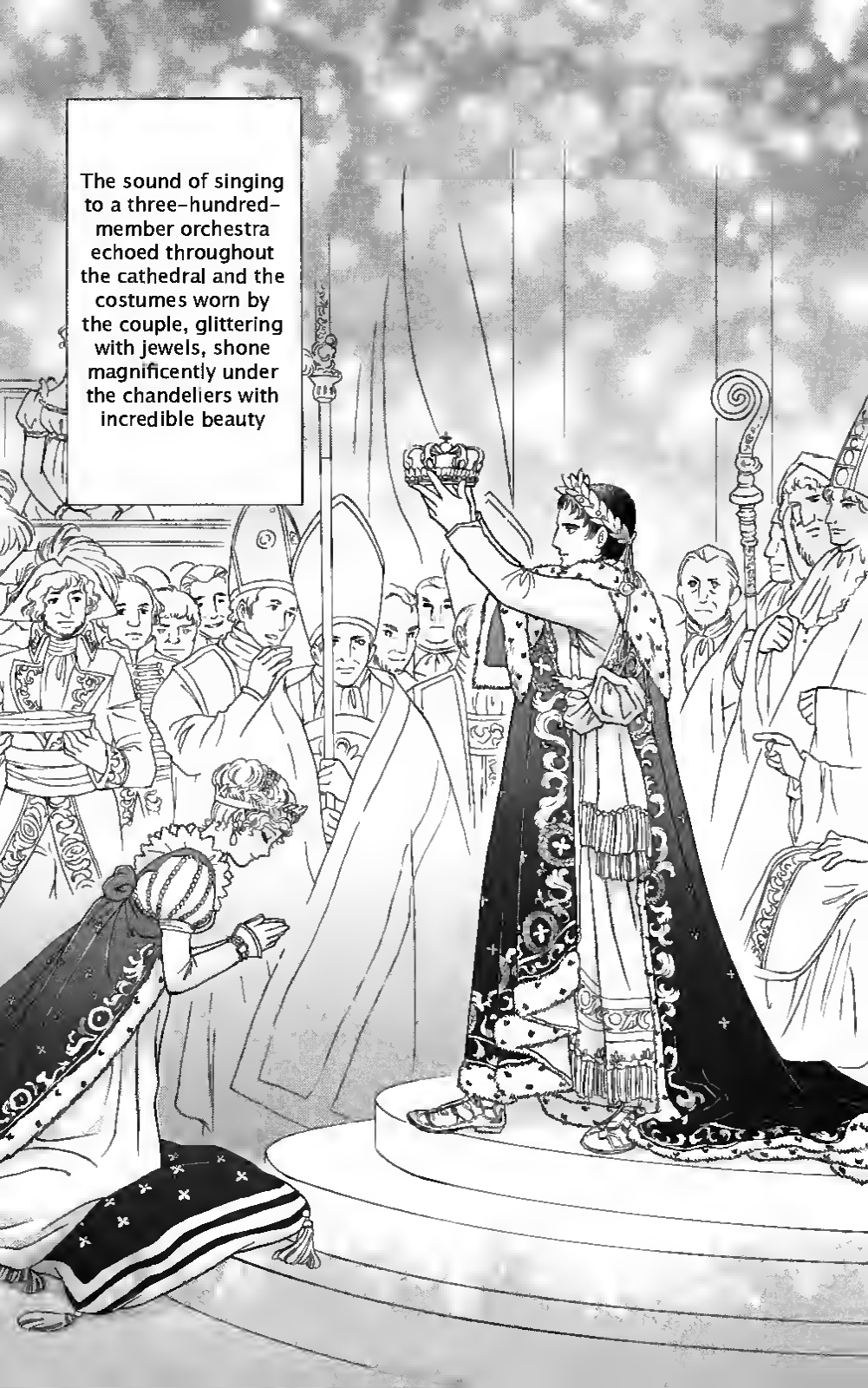
I'm writing my sister's DOB. I'm not an old bag
Oh, that's right– they didn't write down the correct informa–tion!
My older brother's DOB I'm no young–ster

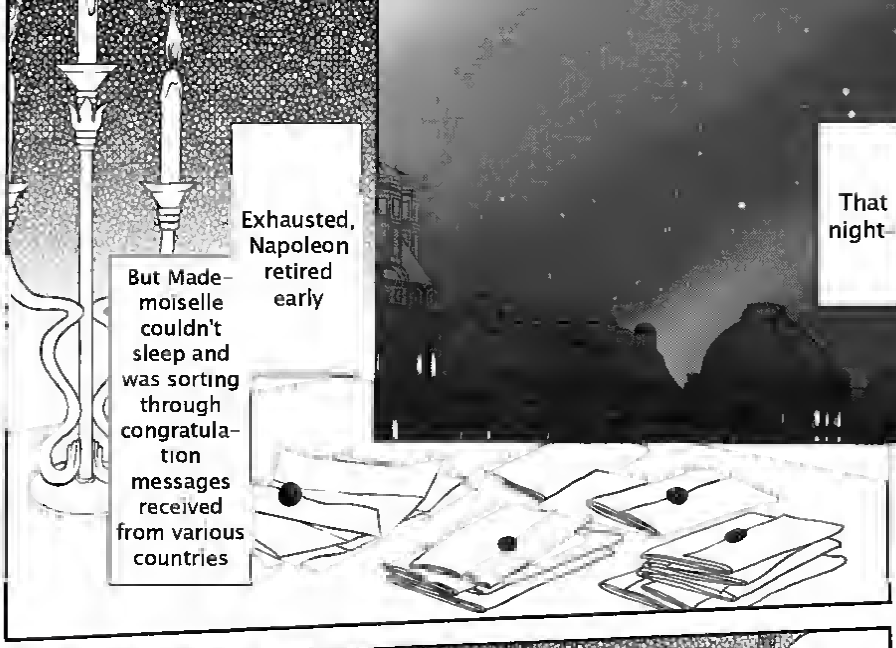

I just remembered the documents we submitted when we got married
What are you saying?
sob
sob

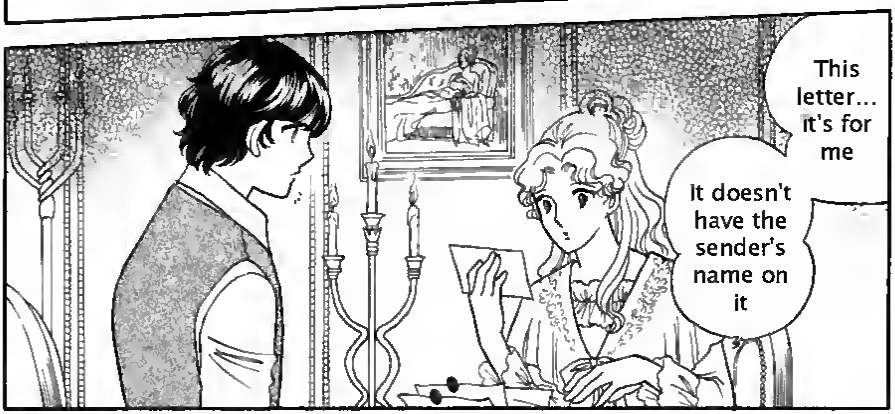
Waaah
あぅん
I won't be able to wear the beautiful silk dress that arrived from Lyon
I don't think that's our main concern...
きこなす
clarify
Pope Pius VII is in Paris to attend the ceremony tomorrow
Let's go and talk to him
An important person like the Pope?
You'll be important when you're empress, too
A kind empress who doesn't show off her power...
...I see
The empress will not be able to attend then, or even be allowed inside Notre-Dame Cathedral

Take the formal steps tonight
My advice for you is that we still have time
アーメン
Amen
Sir?
To the chapel at Tuileries Palace
Where are you taking me?
Agathon, I haven't tried on my silk shoes yet
If Mademoiselle hadn't realized the situation and Napoleon's family found out that they hadn't officially been married she could have lost everything
The couple were finally properly wed that night with Cardinal Fesch and two aides as witnesses


The coronation began solemnly with twenty thousand guests attending
December 2, 1804


The sound of singing to a three-hundred-member orchestra echoed throughout the cathedral and the costumes worn by the couple, glittering with jewels, shone magnificently under the chandeliers with incredible beauty


That night–
Exhausted, Napoleon retired early
But Mademoiselle couldn't sleep and was sorting through congratulation messages received from various countries


This letter... it's for me
It doesn't have the sender's name on it

Aymee!
Dearest Empress Josephine
Our futures that we dreamed about on Martinique have come true. Let us congratulate one
With love, Nakşidil Sultan

Martinique, an island of never-ending summers
...Mlle. Aymee...
What Charles said was true!
Agathon... Aymee's alive!
Two young girls guided by Eliama's words and dreaming about their futures
The time had come for their dreams to come true
Made-moiselle Rose will become greater than a queen
and Made-moiselle Aymee will become empress dowager ...

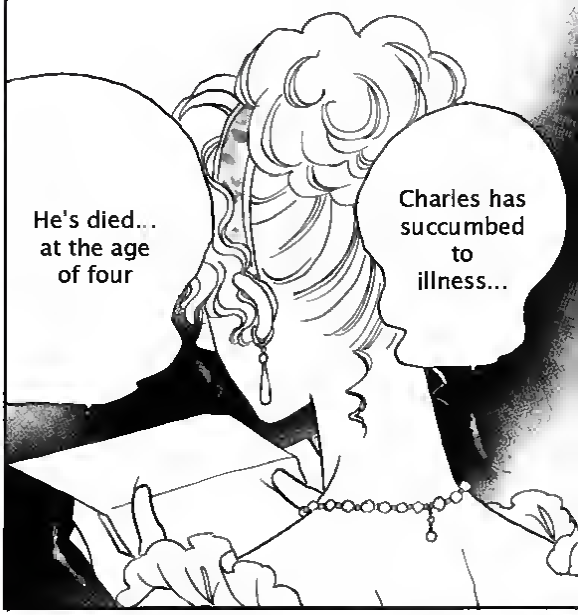
Napoleon was also crowned king in Italy
and named Master Eugene Viceroy
Milan, Italy, March 1805
Louis Bonapar-te, the husband of Mlle. Hortense became king of Holland
and kings were produced from the Bonaparte clan in neighboring countries

Emperor Napoleon promised peace and security to the people of France
and Master Eugene fought by his side in all his battles
Master Eugene's getting married?
Yes, to Princess Amélie of our ally Bavaria

I hear she's a beautiful eighteen-year-old princess. He's twenty-five, ready to have a family
Is this a political marriage?
You could say that
Organizing our family structure can lead to political stability
Hortense and Louis have produced an ideal son with blood ties to myself and my wife
I'm French but I'm also Corsican
As head of our clan I'll do anything to protect our family tradition and honor
Eugene has gone to Bavaria
and Hortense has gone to the kingdom of Holland

Please outlive me, Bona-parte
Unlike a husband..." till death do us part" according to the Pope
Children don't stay with their parents forever
They're both so far away...
A letter has arrived from Mlle. Hortense by messenger
What a topic you're discussing
コホン
ah-hem
No, I want you with me when I die
I'll pro-bably go first
...Charles...
it's my hobby
Were you in the greenhouse again? You're always taking care of flowers when you're away from the battlefield
rustle rustle
It's been a while

My heir?
faint


He's died... at the age of four
Charles has succumbed to illness...

Such a thought at a time like this

I'll make him my heir
Their second child is also a boy

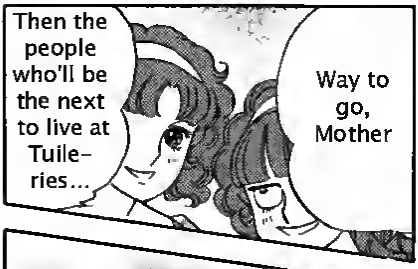
Made-moiselle!

He would call my name so sweetly...
sob sob
Poor, poor Charles
sob sob

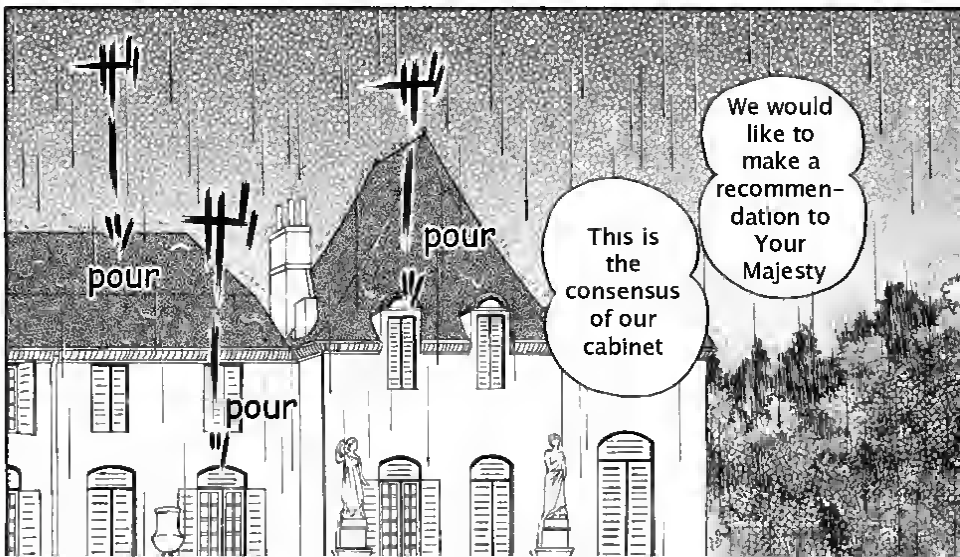
You can cry all you want, Louis
sob sob
Mother ...
sob sob
Kingdom of Holland–
Hortense can't even comfort her own husband
It's a good thing we came
Mama.. I don't know how long I can keep this up
A husband who can't even comfort his wife...
Such a small casket... holding my Charles ...

I've persuaded the govern-ment officials
They should be heading to Malmaison about now

Napoleone was planning to adopt Charles
So much for that
So much for her–she can't even bear an heir, we'll kick her out


Way to go, Mother
Then the people who'll be the next to live at Tuile-ries...

Will be us!


We would like to make a recommen-dation to Your Majesty
This is the consensus of our cabinet
pour
pour
pour

They're important leaders of cabinet. Should we prepare a meal?
I'll go and check
What? A consensus?
We've come to ask you to make... a decision
With the Rhine coalition under our control, our French empire is in the midst of expansion
However, considering our relations with our neighboring countries...
what is most important for our empire is stability, and-
What is it that you want to say?
Your Majesty, you clearly need an heir
a child who has your blood
We don't believe that it is possible for the Empress to-

We still have Louis' second son!
Agathon, we need to know the number of guests-
Shut up!
Let's go
You mustn't listen, Mademoi-selle
Are you wiling to ruin your brother's kingdom for the sake of your infertile empress?
Your Majesty! That boy is the rightful heir to the kingdom of Holland
Take a new wife who can bear you an heir!
grr
Please, Your Majesty, consider divorcing her!

All right! No more!
The future of our empire depends on your decision
Get out!
Made-moiselle seemed frozen in place
with only her shoul-ders trem-bling
Lo ..long live the emperor...
We shall now leave you
You-you've gotten our point, sir
This is a night-mare!
...A divorce?
It was worth risking our lives with our recom-mendation
Our empire is now secure

You sound so uptight
Agathon ...
!! down-pour
Your Majesty, Emperor Napoleon
click
click
I overheard your conversa-tion, sir
0
0
0
click
Please tell me the truth!
Did you agree to divorce Her Majesty?
It's an emperor's duty to produce heirs and promote security among his people that peace will continue on to the next generation
It's an emperor's duty to produce heirs and promote security among his people that peace will continue on to the next generation

I don't want to divorce her
...don't want to
Tell me how you really feel!
Don't say the same things those people told you!
grab
I want to protect my country...
Without an heir there will surely be conflict over my succession, and needless disputes will create uncertainty
I've become the emperor of France
When we've finally achieved peace...
Napoleon!
But my beloved Josephine can't bear children

Divorce me, my dear Napoleon
Your suffering makes me suffer
Napoleon slowly kneeled before Mademoi-selle who looked so full of dignity
and he kissed her hand like the time that he asked for her hand in marriage

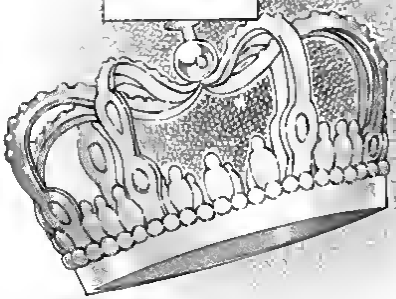
In December 1809,

Made-moiselle left Tuileries for the final time

Besides the com-plicated process for a divorce between an emperor and an empress, the couple hadn't truly desired a separa-tion

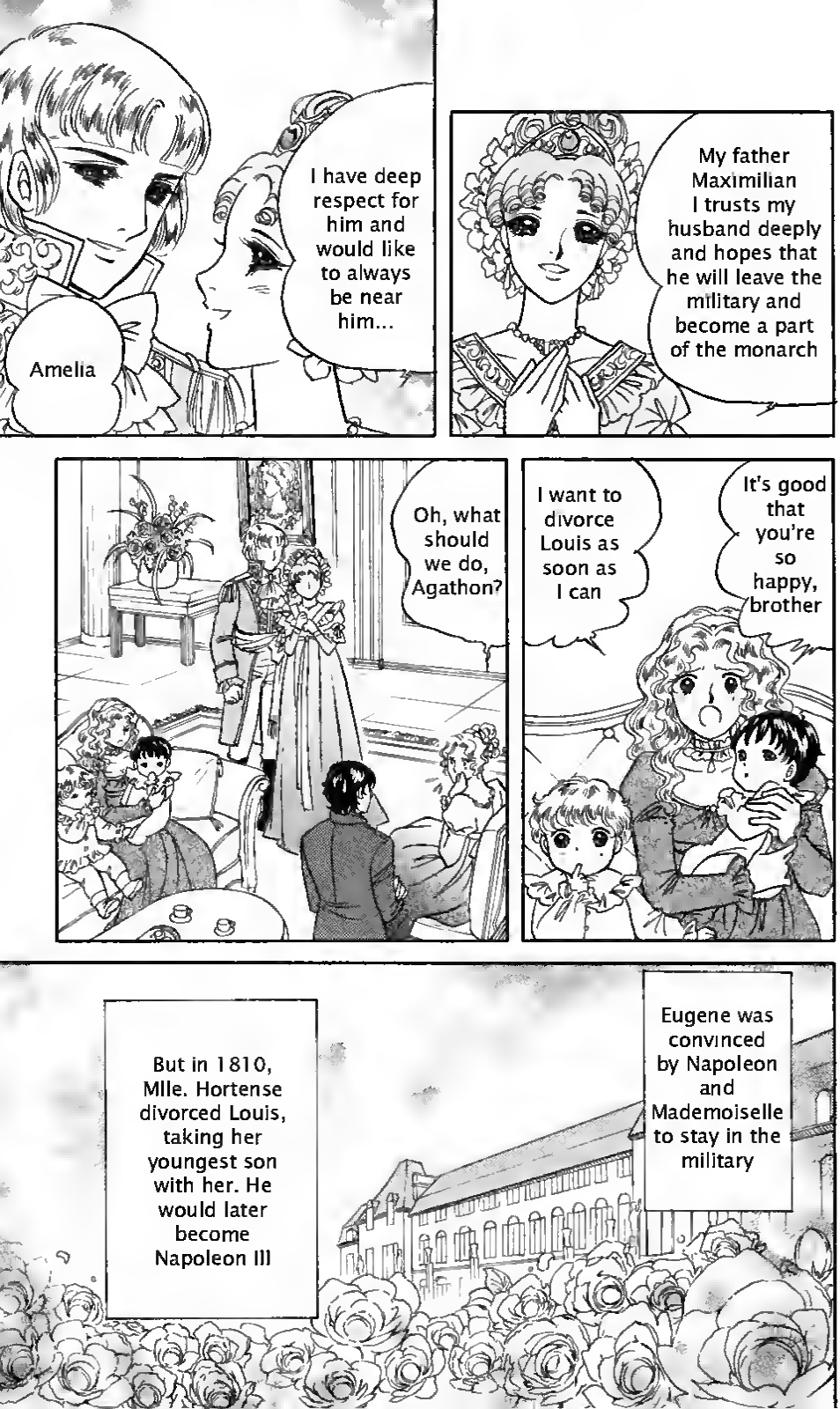
Napoleon allowed her to continue to use the title of empress

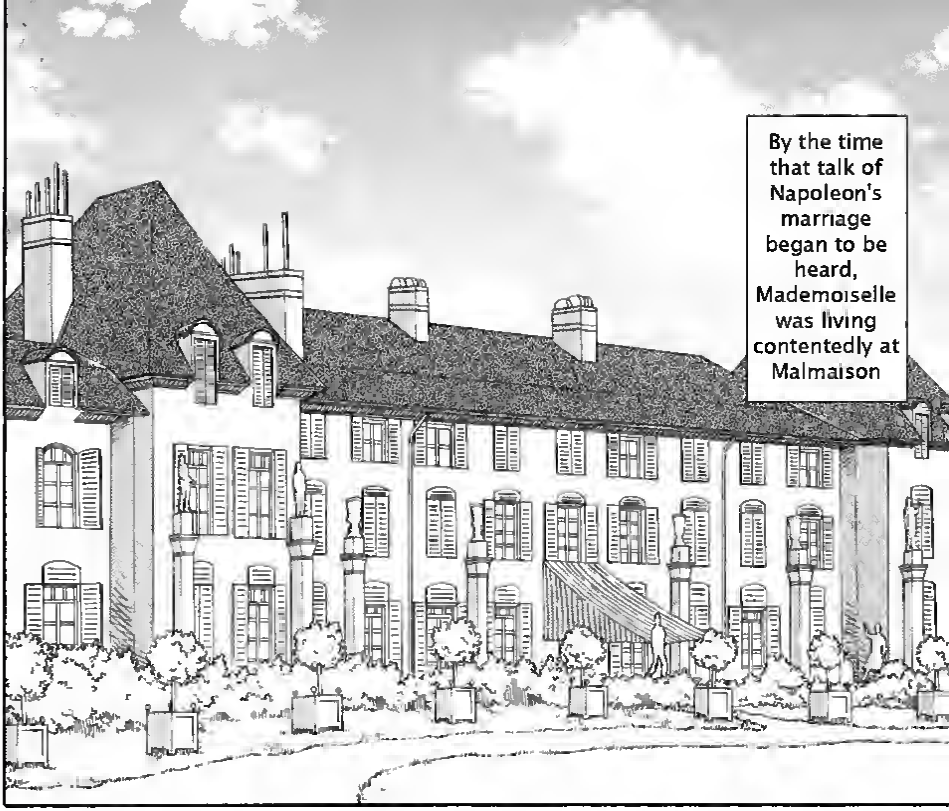
and pledged that they would be the best of friends

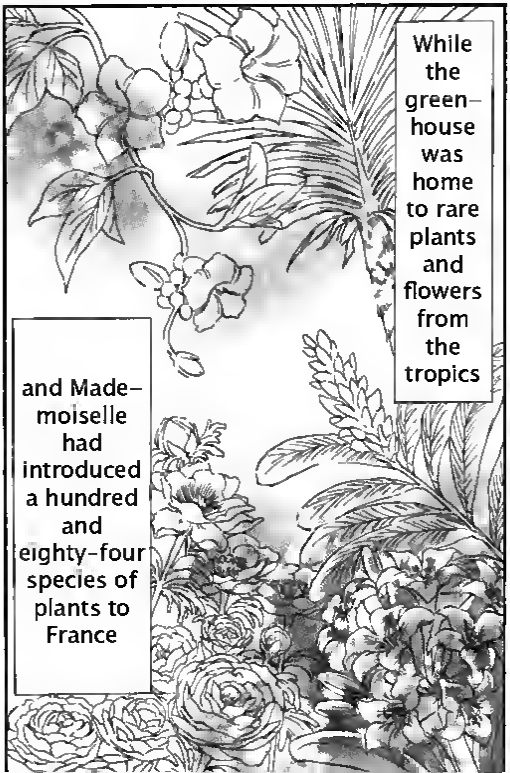


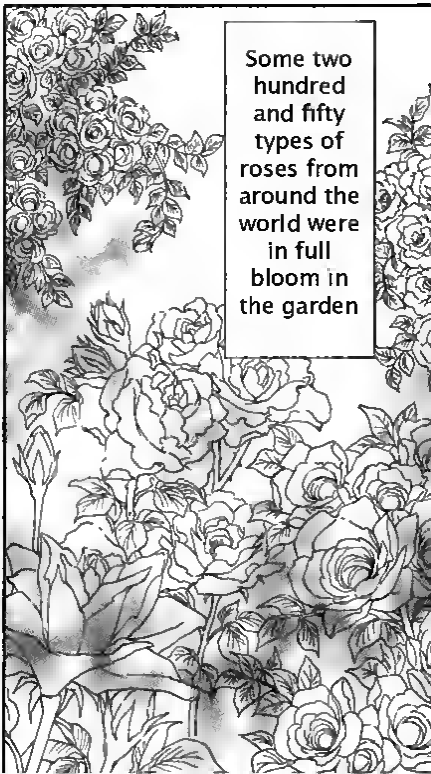
And it took them two years to become formally divorced

What are you going to call the woman who will give you an heir?
Napoleone! Why did you give that woman the title?
The French empire took Josephine's beloved husband from her!
bang
or maybe the mother of Napoleon II
She'll be called the wife of the emperor
Wha ...
As you and Mother have divorced, I'd like to leave the military and cancel our adoption arrangement
I left Napo-leon and so did Master Eugene
I won't let anyone take anything more from her!
...


Amelia
I have deep respect for him and would like to always be near him...
My father Maximilian I trusts my husband deeply and hopes that he will leave the military and become a part of the monarch
Oh, what should we do, Agathon?
I want to divorce Louis as soon as I can
It's good that you're so happy, brother
But in 1810, Mlle. Hortense divorced Louis, taking her youngest son with her. He would later become Napoleon III
Eugene was convinced by Napoleon and Mademoiselle to stay in the military

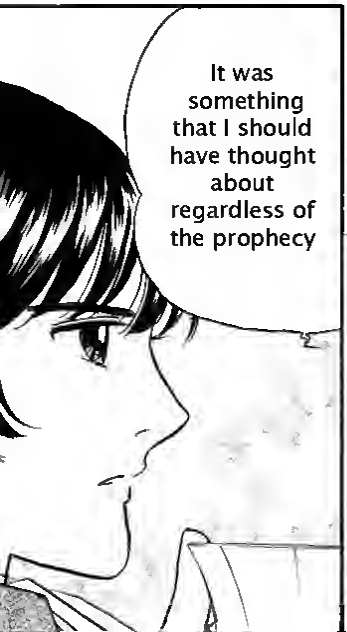

By the time that talk of Napoleon's marriage began to be heard, Mademoiselle was living contentedly at Malmaison

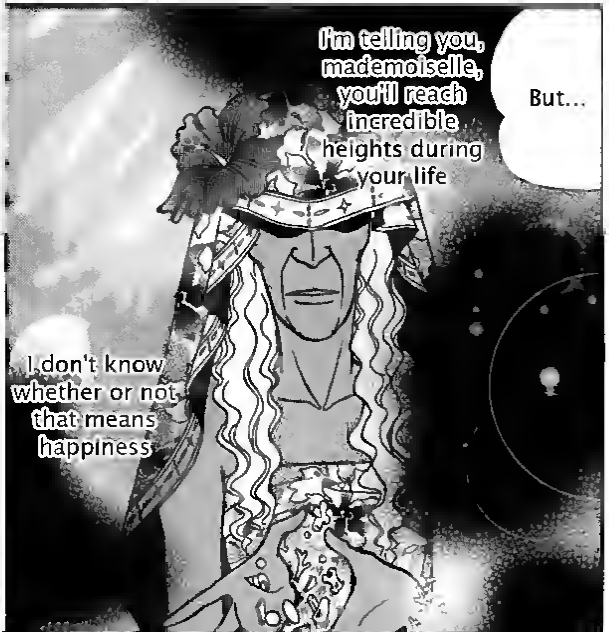

While the green-house was home to rare plants and flowers from the tropics
and Made-moiselle had introduced a hundred and eighty-four species of plants to France


Some two hundred and fifty types of roses from around the world were in full bloom in the garden

Oh?
Agathon
I remembered something else that Eliama told me

But there was more to her prophecy, that I would "fall from great heights" which I sometimes felt might have been missing
Saying goodbye to Bonaparte was so sad I'd felt like the most unfortunate person in the world


It was something that I should have thought about regardless of the prophecy

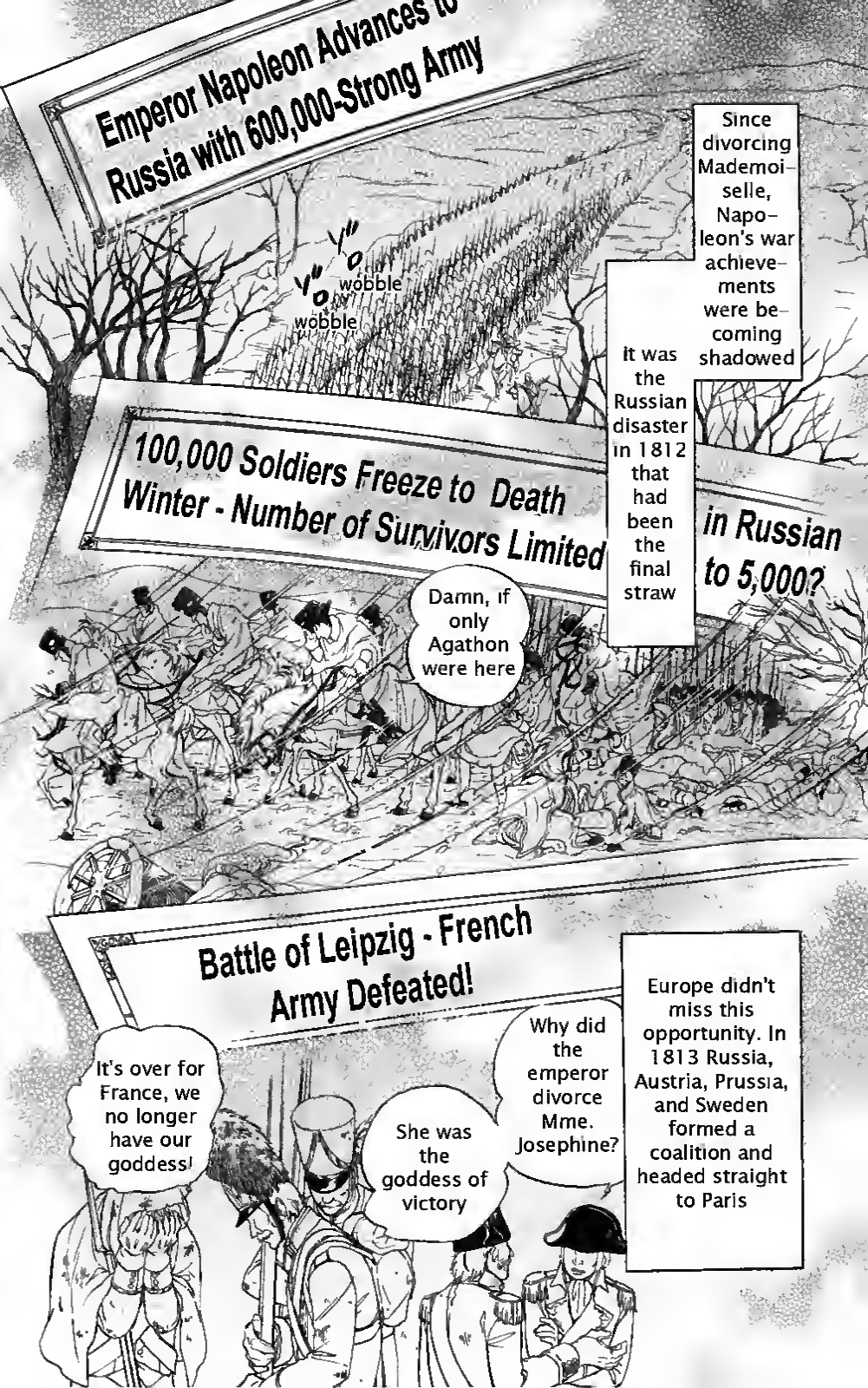

But...
I'm telling you, mademoiselle, you'll reach incredible heights during your life
I don't know whether or not that means happiness

I'm very happy. How about you?
Surrounded by my favorite plants and flowers
and spending relaxed time with you, Agathon
If you're happy, Mademoi-selle,
of course I am, too
Bona-parte!
ah-hem

What are you doing here? Go home!
That's some way to talk to me
I quit working for you
and I quit being your friend
grab
Come on, you two, you're acting like kids
grr
grr
Be nice to each other
It's been a while
What is it?
I, uh... wanted your advice on marriage
slurp
...
There's no one else I can talk to...
slurp

...
All of my sisters' husbands are looking for chances to become emperor
And the ministers suck up to my sisters
sigh
How insensitive! Go and discuss it with your family
I can't
It's about an eighteen-year-old princess who's coming to marry me from Austria. The cabinet is happy about it but what do you think?
The public will complain that the Habsburg blood that they cut off with the revolution will be back in France
Princess Marie-Louise the bride... her great aunt is Marie Antoinette, who was executed at the guillotine
Oh... the princess must be scared about coming here, then
The emperor has to take good care of her and protect her
sob
Is that right, Agathon?

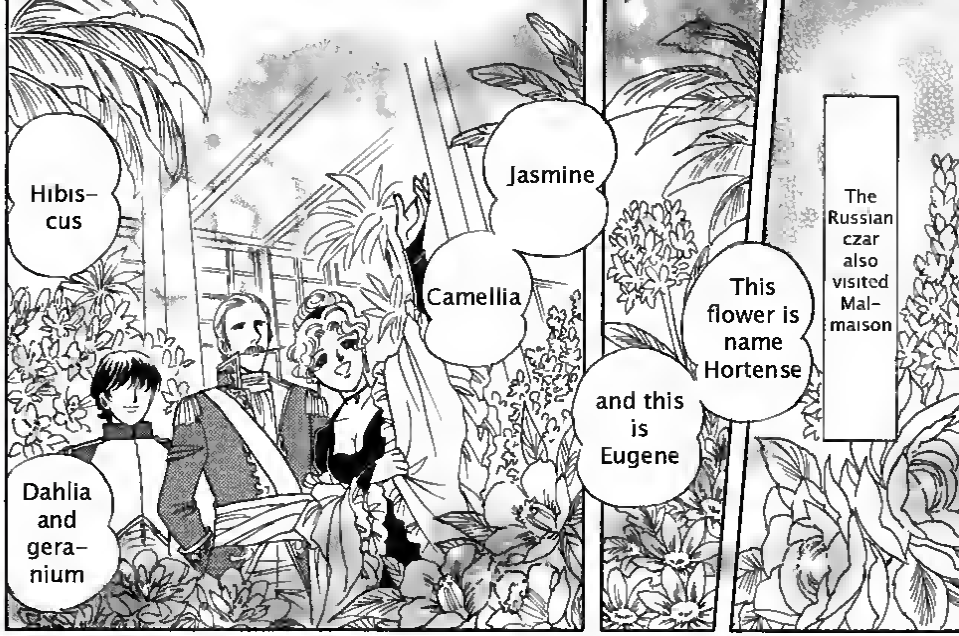
I'll take good care of Marie-Louise
Thank you Josephine, you've made me feel better
Oh... yeah, you're right!
The whole country will congratulate you if you cherish her and she considers the public as being important
You're so soft-hearted!
I'll see you
An aristocrat since birth, Marie-Louise never did sympathize with the public the way Mademoiselle had and as the Emperor misunderstood caring for her and indulging her,
things returned to the way they used to be with extravagance and waste
She soon gave birth to a son but he would never become emperor of France

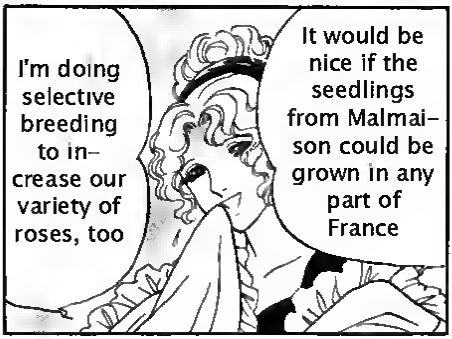

Emperor Napoleon Advances to Russia with 600,000-Strong Army
wobble
wobble
Since divorcing Mademoiselle, Napoleon's war achievements were becoming shadowed
it was the Russian disaster in 1812 that had been the final straw
100,000 Soldiers Freeze to Death Winter - Number of Survivors Limited
in Russian
to 5,000?
Damn, if only Agathon were here
Battle of Leipzig - French Army Defeated!
It's over for France, we no longer have our goddess!
She was the goddess of victory
Why did the emperor divorce Mme. Josephine?
Europe didn't miss this opportunity. In 1813 Russia, Austria, Prussia, and Sweden formed a coalition and headed straight to Paris

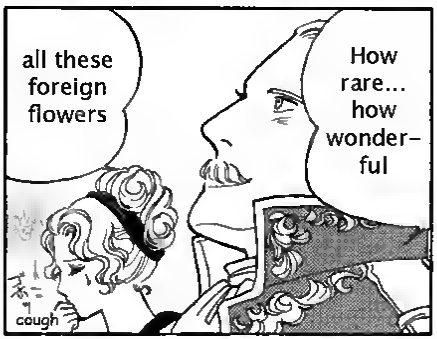
Princess Marie-Louise went back to Austria with her son before the country joined the coalition
Master Eugene has returned safely to Bavaria
The information that I collected was all that we had in Navarre
And Bonaparte?
Agathon ...how is Eugene doing?
Mademoiselle was away from Paris by then, evacuating with Mlle. Hortense to Navarre in the Pyrenees
Poor Bonaparte!
and Napoleon...he was made to resign and exiled to Elba Island in the Mediterranean
The coalition forces held a victory parade along the Champs Elysées...
I'll go to Elba Island...
The brother of Louis XVI--it's returned to a monarch
Who will rule France?
Bonaparte? To Elba?

That wish was not to come true
The coalition forces wanted Mademoiselle, a favorite of the people, to continue to live at Malmaison–
This castle and this garden are both sophis-ticated like you
Mme. Josephine, you're the most elegant lady in Paris
The kind-ness of the Empress is so sooth-ing
For some reason, it's comforting just to come here
No one knows how she really feels behind that gentle smile and her elegant mannerisms

The inspec-tors would be delighted to eat them
I'd like to send his favorite cheeses to Elba Island
You'll suffocate before you get there
Maybe I could hide in a carpet like Cleopatra and go...
sob
...I want to see him
Bonaparte always asked me to read to him when he couldn't sleep
...I know He said he loved the sound of your voice
If only I could fly in the wind like a rose petal and fly to Elba...
sob sob
I can't imagine never seeing him again
boo hoo
He'll be coming back to Paris
...Let us wait

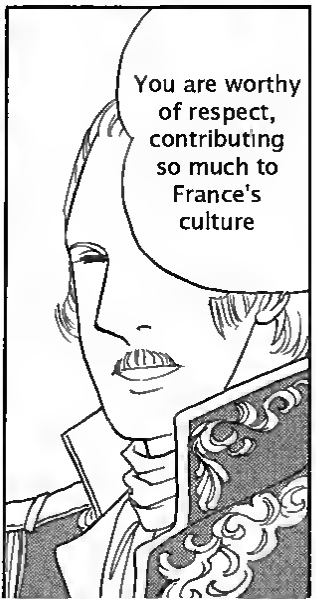

Hibis-
cus
Jasmine
Camellia
Dahlia
and
gera-
nium
This
flower is
name
Hortense
and this
is
Eugene
The
Russian
czar
also
visited
Mal-
maison


I'm doing
selective
breeding
to in-
crease our
variety of
roses, too
It would be
nice if the
seedlings
from Malmai-
son could be
grown in any
part of
France


all these
foreign
flowers
How
rare...
how
wonder-
ful
cough

Made-
moi-
selle?

ゴホゴホ
cough
cough

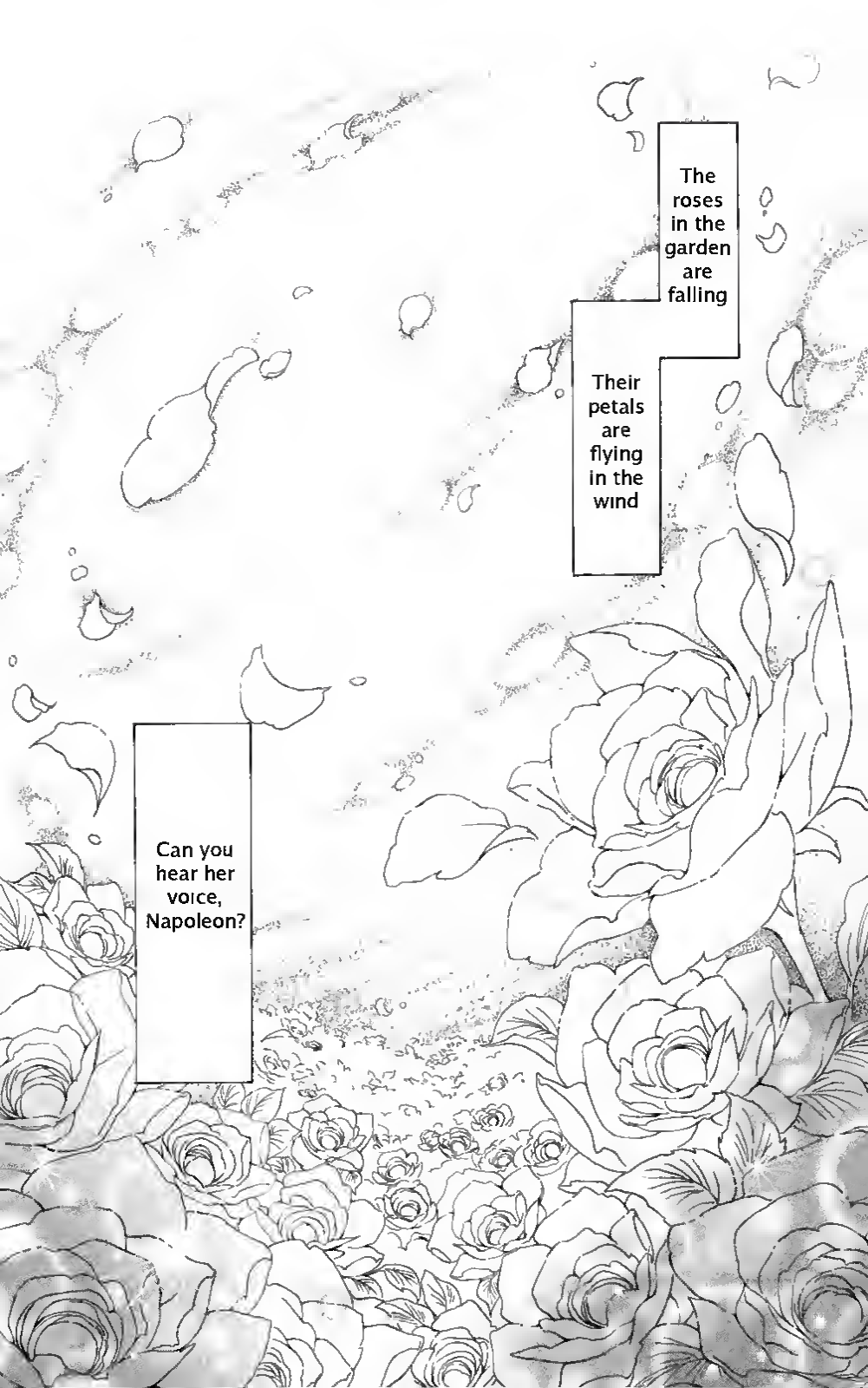

You are worthy
of respect,
contributing
so much to
France's
culture

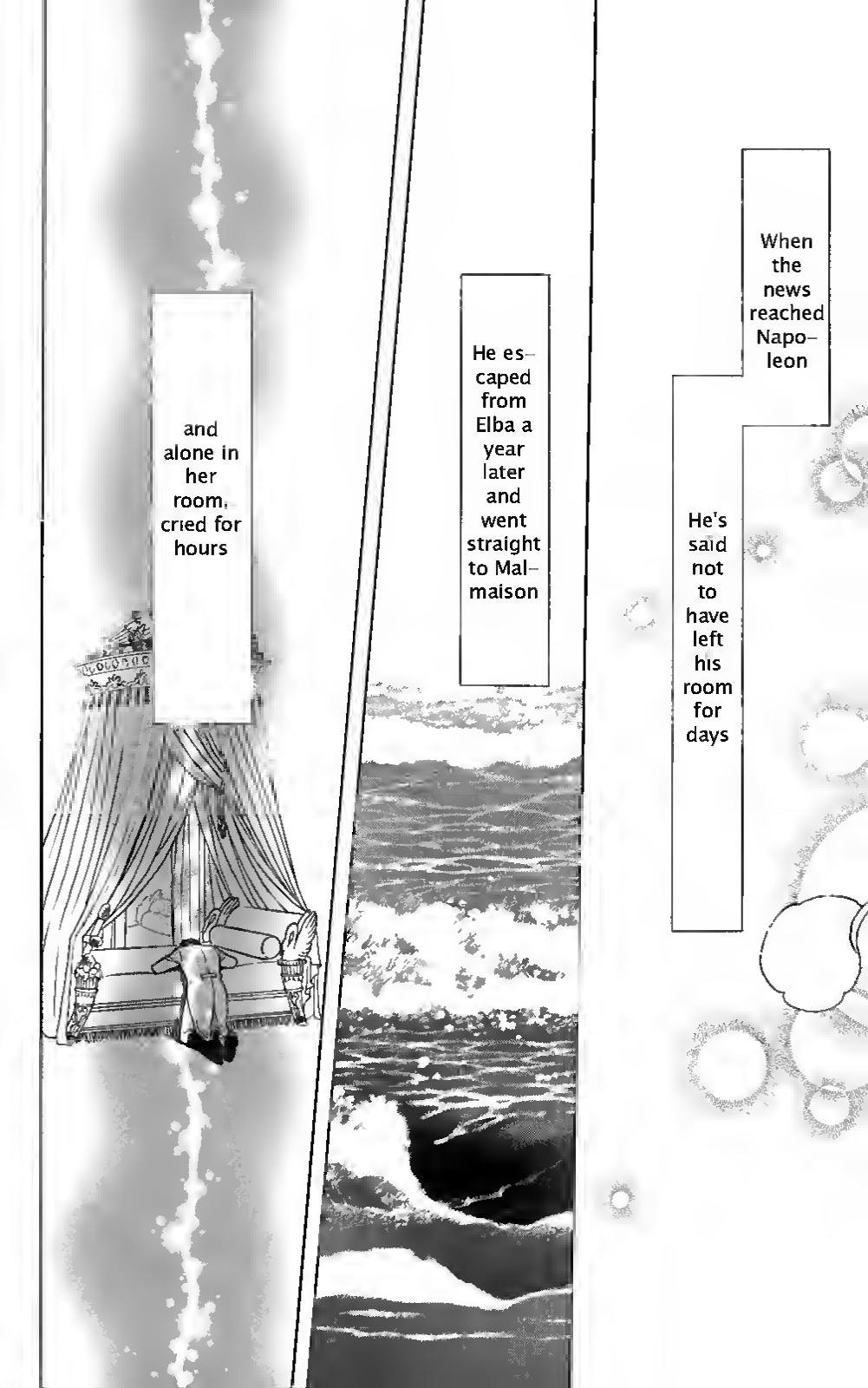
cough
cough
and her cough ...
She has a terrible fever...
cough
cough
I can't guaran-tee that she'll make it
Unless her fever goes down-
Are you saying that Mademoi-selle's dying?
We should contact her children
...Made-moiselle?
make it?
.. her life's at risk?

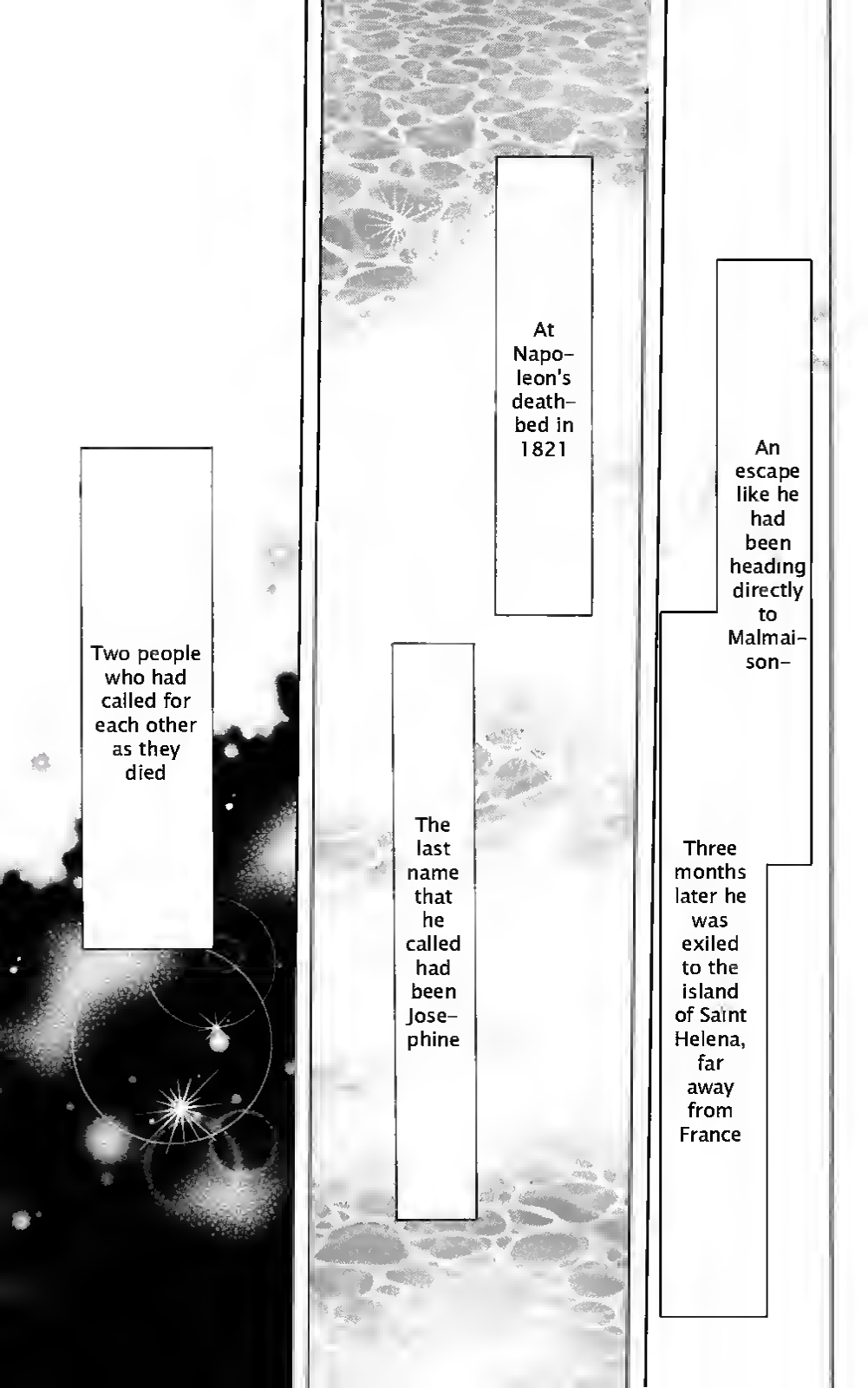
It's as if Mademoiselle is really trying to become a rose petal so she can go and see Napoleon
It had been less than a month since Napoleon had been exiled to Elba Island
...Aga-thon
I called her that for the first time
... Sister ...
Please don't cry
...my brother

...My sister ...
So promise me you'll call me that from now on
I'll get better soon
...I'm glad
You knew, too...
My sister...
My dear sister
It was the only time I repeatedly voiced those words
I quietly left her bed side
when the children arrived
Mother!
Mother ...

Why, Mother?
Mother
Eugene... please inherit this castle... with Hortense... take care of Agathon...
Elba... Bonaparte ...
Mother!
Mother!

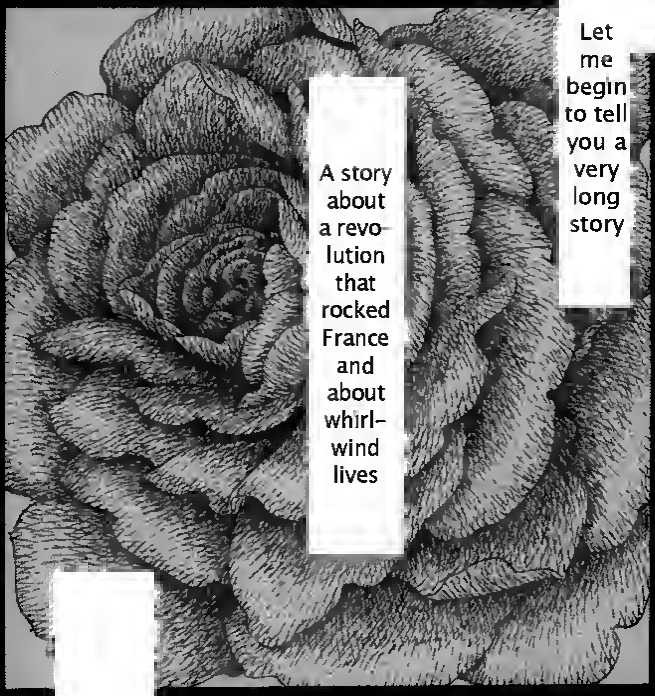

The roses in the garden are falling
Their petals are flying in the wind
Can you hear her voice, Napoleon?


and alone in her room, cried for hours
He escaped from Elba a year later and went straight to Malmaison
When the news reached Napoleon
He's said not to have left his room for days


Two people who had called for each other as they died
The last name that he called had been Josephine
At Napoleon's deathbed in 1821
An escape like he had been heading directly to Malmaison
Three months later he was exiled to the island of Saint Helena, far away from France

My name is Agathon

Let me begin to tell you a very long story



A story about a revolution that rocked France and about whirlwind lives

A story about a person who had been like a beautiful rose

Josephine the French Rose-The End

Josephine the French Rose 4

Manga art by Yumiko Igarashi
Story Kaoru Ochiai

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